AMISH COUNTRY NEWS

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ANNUAL EVENTS ISSUE

PENNSYLVANIA RENAISSANCE FAIRE

Celebrating 31 Years of Jousting Knights & Royal Delights

New Amish
Visit-In-Person
Tour Opportunity

Cooking Classes with
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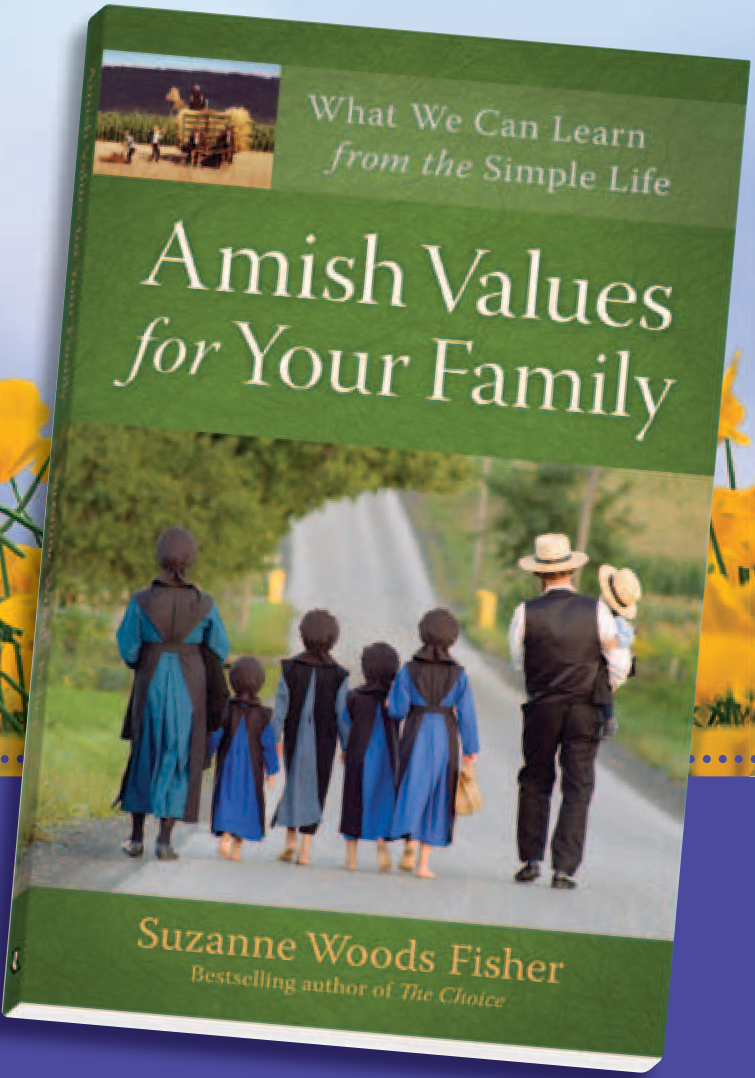
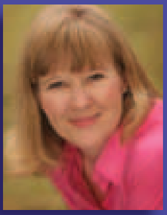
SIMPLE ADVICE THAT COULD CHANGE YOUR FAMILY FOREVER

When it comes to strong families that know how to truly enjoy life together, there is much we can learn from the Amish. Bestselling author Suzanne Woods Fisher shares a glimpse into the daily life of real Amish families in this inspiring and practical book.


What We Can Learn from the Simple Life
Amish Values for Your Family
Suzanne Woods Fisher
Bestselling author of The Choice



Suzanne Woods Fisher

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Featuring Suzanne Woods Fisher

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—Cindy Woodsmall, *New York Times* bestselling author of *When the Soul Mends*

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DUTCH HAVEN LANCASTER COUNTY LANDMARK

While driving along Route 30 in Lancaster County, you may see a few unfamiliar, if not unique, sites. You may catch a glimpse of some folks dressed a little unusually. You'll probably see a few horse-drawn carriages instead of cars. And, you'll undoubtedly notice the Dutch Haven windmill. This landmark building has been drawing thousands of visitors each week to Lancaster County for the past 50 years. Opening first as a restaurant in 1946, the Dutch Haven operated with great success with a world famous Shoo Fly pie recipe.

Today, the Dutch Haven staple is still "America's Best Shoo Fly Pie." All you have to do is pass through the door and you will be offered a sample taste of this famous pie—warmed and topped with whipped cream, just like it was always served in the restaurant, years ago.

Some 40,000 pies will be sold at the Dutch Haven this year alone. While most of these shoo fly pies are purchased over the counter, some are shipped UPS. Many pies are sold to faithful customers who have been buying them from Dutch Haven for over half a century!

Come Taste
America's Best
Shoo Fly Pie
FREE!

As always at Dutch Haven, the famous pie that was featured in Time magazine is just part of the story. The windmill building now houses one of, if not the best, selections of primitive Amish pine furniture in the area. Corner cupboards, pie safes, chests, and shelves are all available. Hundreds of pieces of Amish woodcrafts fill what once were the dining rooms of this wonderful old building. In addition, thousands of other items from pot holders to collectibles, T-shirts, small wood crafts, Amish romance novels, and much more make Dutch Haven a true shopping experience.

Dutch Haven is open 7 days a week, 9am-9pm. For more information about this Lancaster County landmark, call (717) 687-0111.

Visiting Dutch Haven - "the place that made Shoo Fly Pie famous" - will help to make your trip to Pennsylvania Dutch Country even more memorable.

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Jakey's Amish Barbeque

The Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire
A Spectacle to Behold!

Special to Amish Country News

The Shire of Mount Hope once again brings to life the fantasy of bygone days and knights as the castle gates swing wide to the 31st season of the glorious Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire on the National Register of Historic Places site of Mount Hope Estate & Winery. Just minutes from the Amish farmlands on Route 72, ¼ mile south of PA Turnpike Exit 266, north of Lancaster, this rollicking trip back in time to Merrie Olde England spans 12 glorious weekends and Labor Day Monday, August 13 through October 30.

Imagine Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth I, some 400 years ago, arriving at Her favorite summer retreat in full processional led by Her court jester followed by regally adorned lords, ladies, and nobles of all types. The entourage is greeted by the cheers and hearty refrains of "God Save The Queen" by 100's of colorfully costumed townsfolk, and guests like you, eager to celebrate a day of mirth and merriment unlike any than has preceded it.

Non-Stop Revelery

More than 90 shows fill the Faire's 11 stages including a three-story replica of Shakespeare's Globe Theater, so you'll want to arrive early, even before the ringing of the village bell at 11am which marks the commencement of the festivities, and stay through the rousing Finale In Song at 8pm.

It's impossible not to marvel at the sword swallowers, fire eaters, magicians, jugglers and dare-devil tumblers whose antics please Fairegoers of all ages. Before you know it, you're singing along with handsome rogues and flirtatous wenches beckoning you to join in their playful performance. Looking skyward, you are captivated by an amazing display of the Royal Falconer's birds of prey in flight. You follow the crowds to the Human Chess Match, a stunt-filled extravaganza complete with swords, hand-to-hand combat and fast-paced wit, played on a massive 40' x 40' chess board and long one of the most popular revels of the festival day.

At the Harlequin Stage, the aerial acrobatics, trapeze and partner balancing of Tribal Circus have you asking yourself, "How do they do what they do?" Be sure to note the Daily Writ carefully as some shows are marked as especially suitable for children or adults only, but with most fit for the entire family.

Too Real Not To Be

The excitement of the day builds from the morning's Queen's Court to the dramatic Ultimate Joust. In the largest arena of its kind in North America, a tour d' force of lance, shield and equestrian skill unfolds as thousands of pounds of man, horse and steel gallop fearlessly toward each other. The impact reverberates above the breathless throng as lances shatter and noble knights fall to the ground in battle so lifelike that it must surely be real.

You're Part Of The Show

All along the Shire streets, the Faire's hallmark interactive theater abounds as citizens of the Shire engage and entertain with song, swordplay, and even storytelling in an icky gooey pit of water and mud where "volunteers" play cameo roles. In the gaming village, the medieval axe throw and crossbow are the extreme sports of the day. The Children's Discovery

Garden activities engage and entertain the young “nippers” with play dedicated to Renaissance sciences, music, theater and visual arts. Man-powered rides, the Fight Circle, Mad Tom’s Wreck Room, Brody’s Bombardment and the Amazing Maze provide challenges for all.

Royal Feasting

Twenty Royal Kitchens serve forth an endless array of delicious foods and 16th century favorites from giant smoked turkey legs to steak-on-a-stake, fish-n-chips, Scotch eggs and savory soups in bread bowls. There’s freshly baked pastries, heaping scoops of Italian gelato, hearth baked pizzas and an aroma of newly ground coffee beans that leads you inevitably to the Dark Knight Cafe. At the Swashbuckler Brewpub the Faire’s very own micro-brewed ales quench thirsts with very special handmade artisan beers. Of course this is Mount Hope Estate and Winery and complimentary samplings of award winning wines are available in the Wine Shoppe and for purchase by the glass at Bacchus’s Retreat.

A Village of Guildsmen

Banter and barter with the scores of Renaissance inspired artisans demonstrating and selling their ancient wares The glassblower creating one of a kind works of art, the blacksmith hammering out swords for Her Majesty’s knights, silversmiths, herbalists, potters and dozens more all help deepen the illusion of a country holiday and marketplace of long ago.

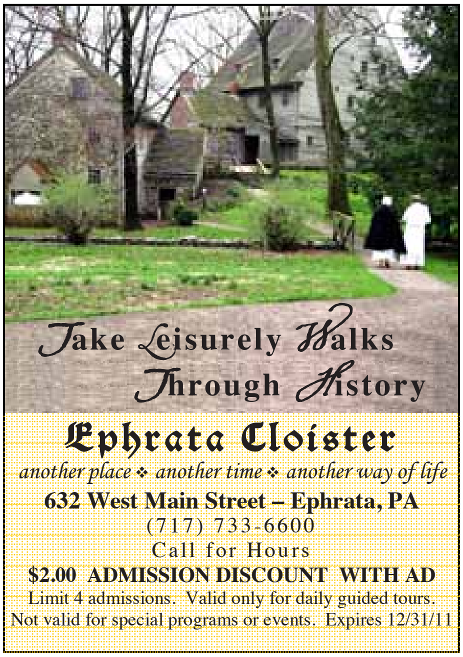
One Of America’s Top 100 Events

You’ll soon discover why the Faire has been named One of the Top 100 Events in North America by the American Bus Association, as you wander about this 35 acre village where each of us, if but for a few short hours, is free to cast aside the cares and concerns of everyday life. With a cast of 1000’s meeting, greeting and welcoming you into their village at every turn, having experienced the marvelous fantasy of the Faire, you’ll leave with a smile on your face and with memories made that will last long past your journey home.

Adult admission is $29.95 and child admission, ages 5 to 11, is $10.95. Games, rides, foods, beverages and crafts are an additional fee. Parking is free. Visit PaRenFaire.com for complete show details, helpful tips for a fun-filled Faire day and discounted advance tickets.

Upcoming August Events

NOTE: All phone area codes are 717 unless otherwise noted. Please call or check websites to confirm dates and times.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Thru November
(see website for schedule)
"Wine & Cheese Train"
Strasburg Rail Road
Strasburg, PA 687-7522
StrasburgRailRoad.com

Thru November (call for schedule)
Ghost Tours of Lancaster
Strasburg & Downtown Lancaster
Strasburg / Lancaster
687-6687 / 610-404-4678
GhostTour.com

Thru November 5 (see website for schedule)
Amazing Corn Maize Maze
Cherry Crest Adventure Farm
Strasburg, PA 687-6843
CherryCrestFarm.com

Thru October 30
- **Amish Visit-In-Person Tours** (Mon.-Fri.)
- **Witness Movie Covered Bridge Tours** (Wed. & Sat.)

Amish Experience / Amish Country Tours
Bird-in-Hand, 768-3600
AmishExperience.com

Thru October 22
"Joseph"
Sight & Sound Theatres ®
Strasburg, PA 800-377-1277
Sight-Sound.com

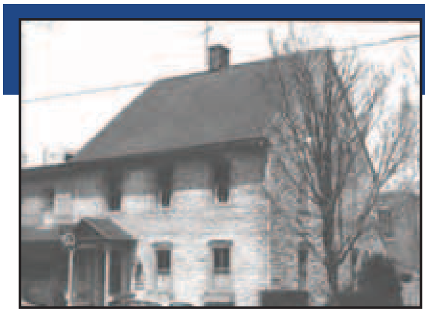
July 14 - August 20
"The Wizard of Oz"
Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre
Lancaster, 898-1900
DutchApple.com

August 5
First Friday Activities
Throughout Downtown Area
Lancaster, 399-7977
LancasterARTS.com/firstfridays

August 7
Kelly Willis with Bruce Robinson
Long's Park Amphitheater
(free outdoor concert)
Lancaster, PA
LongsPark.org

I Love a Piano -Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre

The Pretzel Turns 150 Years Old in Lititz



by Clinton Martin

One hundred and fifty years ago, an enterprising baker named Julius Sturgis had the idea of improving on the soft pretzel -- turning it into a hard, crispy snack that wouldn't spoil and could be conveniently transported over long distances. So in 1861, he opened a bakery in Lititz devoted entirely to churning out these tasty treats.

Since then, the pretzel has grown to be one of America's favorite snack foods. An amazing achievement, given that in 1861 pretzels were only sold in areas that Julius could reach in a single day's journey by horse and wagon. Today, a visit to the Julius Sturgis Pretzel Bakery lets you see the original ovens, twisting tables, and baking tools that Julius used to start the American pretzel industry. The 20-minute tour also includes a fun hands-on lesson, where you get a piece of dough and are taught to twist a pretzel step by step.

ON THIS SITE IN 1861
JULIUS STURGIS
THIS TABLET DEDICATED BY
MAY 1951
ALEX V. TISDALE PRES.

"We are really quite honored to be celebrating the 150th anniversary of America's first pretzel bakery," said Bruce Sturgis, co-owner and Julius's great-great-great-grandson. "We're still essentially using the same recipes and techniques today that he [Julius] established so long ago."

Given that his simple idea for a crispy, delicious treat grew into a thriving national industry, it's perhaps not so surprising that the pretzel hasn't changed much since Julius's day.

You can see where it all began Monday to Saturday, 9am to 5pm. Tours start each day at 9:30am. For more information, call (717) 626-4354 or visit JuliusSturgis.com

August 11 & 18

An Authentic Bird-in-Hand Experience:

A Banquet in a Cornfield.
Smucker's Farm
Bird-in-Hand, PA 768-1500
Bird-in-Hand.com

August 13 - October 30
(see website for schedule)

Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire

Mount Hope Estate & Winery
Manheim, PA 665-7021
PaRenFaire.com

August 6 &7

Theme - Coins, Jewelry, Glassware & Silver

Shupp's Grove Antique Market
Adamstown, PA 484-4115
ShuppsGrove.com

August 13

Traditional Dinner & Murder Mystery

Strasburg Rail Road
Strasburg, PA 687-7522
StrasburgRailRoad.com

August 14

PA Music Expo - Keystone Record Collectors

Continental Inn
Lancaster, PA   898-1246
RecordCollectors.org

August 13 & 14

Theme - Native American, Fossils, Rocks, Gems & Minerals

Shupp's Grove Antique Market
Adamstown, PA 484-4115
ShuppsGrove.com

August 14

Hot Club of Detroit

Long's Park Amphitheater
(free outdoor concert)
Lancaster, PA LongsPark.org

August 19

Wine Tasting

Strasburg Rail Road
Strasburg, PA 687-7522
StrasburgRailRoad.com

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- Collectibles and More
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Mustang Tickets: $10 each
• Raffle held Monday, September 5
For more info, call
(717) 295-3900 or visit
www.hospiceoflancaster.org.

August 20 & 21

Theme - Tools, Railroad & Transportation

Shupp's Grove Antique Market
Adamstown, PA 484-4115
ShuppsGrove.com

August 21

Arturo O'Farrilll & the Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra

Long's Park Amphitheater
(free outdoor concert)
Lancaster, PA
LongsPark.org

August 25 - October 1

"I Love a Piano"

Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre
Lancaster, 898-1900
DutchApple.com

August 27 & 28

Theme - Dolls, Bears, Toys & Games

Shupp's Grove Antique Market
Adamstown, PA 484-4115
ShuppsGrove.com

August 27

Traditional Dinner & Murder Mystery

Strasburg Rail Road
Strasburg, PA 687-7522
StrasburgRailRoad.com

August 27

Mud Sale & Auction

Kinzers Volunteer Company
Kinzers, PA 442-4121

August 28

Jeffery Broussard & the Creole Cowboys

Long's Park Amphitheater
(free outdoor concert)
Lancaster, PA
LongsPark.org

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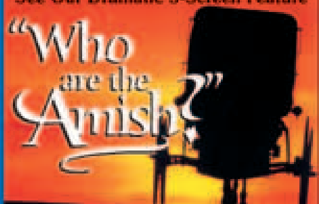
"Who are the Amish?"



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GREAT ATMOSPHERE, BETTER FOOD, EXCELLENT BEER!

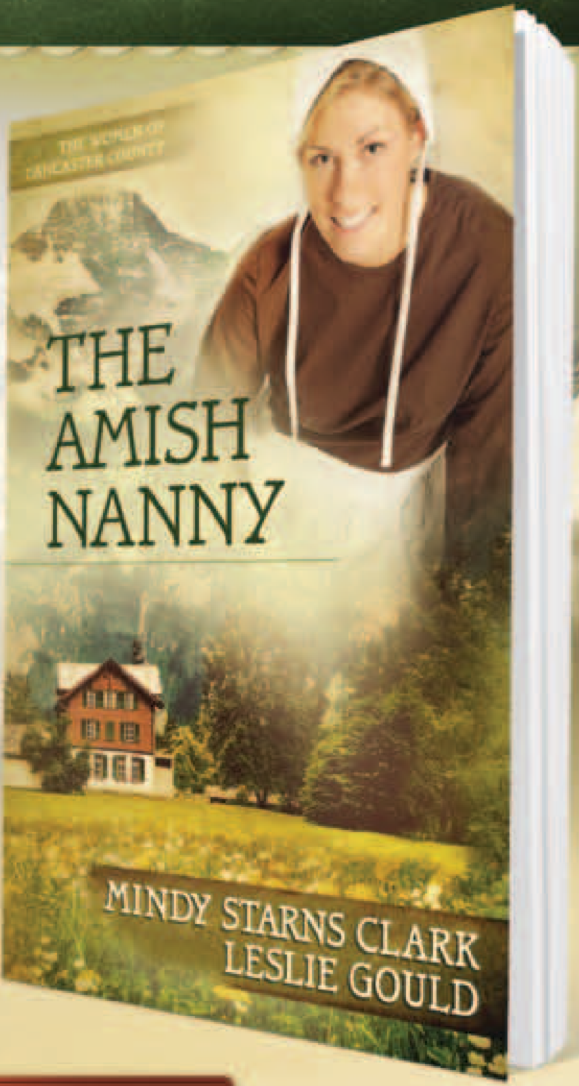
North of Ephrata, up-and-coming on the dining scene is the Union Barrel Works, pumping renewed energy into the little village of Reamstown. It started when the Rupp family left one of the local "old guard" breweries to start a brewpub. The idea was to craft excellent small-batch micro-beers, but a keen sense of There Must Be Good Food made their mission unique and UBW added a renowned chef alongside the classically trained brewmaster.

Eventually, an historic old brick façade at 6 N. Reamstown Road was uncovered. Hundreds of hours of "sweat equity" resulted in the perfect atmosphere to enjoy a superb meal while sampling some truly special brews. The original tin ceiling and bar are Victorian America. Imagine the stories they could tell!

Your memories will linger well after you've visited, tasted, sipped, sighed, and smiled at the offerings of Union Barrel Work's friendly kitchen and approachable beer. Whether you favor traditional pub grub such as wings and burgers, or are an adventurous spirit and look to the Texas Caviar, the menu is an oyster shell filled with pearls. Bite into something amazing, raise a glass of beer, and, if you're like the gang here at Amish Country News, you'll be planning your next visit before the second "Hefeweizen" is served!

A fascinating tale of a young woman's journey—to *Switzerland*, to *faith*, and finally to *love*.

NEW!


THE WOMEN OF LANCASTER COUNTY
THE AMISH NANNY
MINDY STARNS CLARK
LESLIE GOULD

Bestselling author Mindy Starns Clark and coauthor Leslie Gould offer readers *The Amish Nanny*, Book 2 in the Women of Lancaster County series, which tells the stories of young Plain women as they explore their roots, connect with family, and discover true love.

Amish-raised Ada Rupp knows it's time to make a commitment to the faith and join the church, especially if she wants a future with the handsome Amish widower Will Gundy. But when she has the chance to travel to Switzerland as the caregiver of a young child, she leaps at the opportunity.

Anxious to learn more about her forebears, Ada enlists the help of a young Mennonite scholar named Daniel, but even as she develops feelings for him, she cannot get Will from her mind—or her heart. At a crossroads, Ada must decide what she is willing to give up from the past in order to embrace her future.

THE AMISH MIDWIFE
MINDY STARNS CLARK
LESLIE GOULD

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Fascinating Amish VIP Tour...
Engaging the Amish Community

by Clinton Martin

The Amish Visit-In-Person Tour doesn't have its own Facebook site. It isn't on Twitter. There isn't a smart phone app for either. But, the experience taps into a social network, perhaps more uniquely, with a high-touch vs. a high-tech model, than anything in this world, and, there is only one place in the world you can do it.

The social network I am referring to is the Amish community of Lancaster County. Here, families live and work in close proximity to each other, understanding from a very early age that the community is more important than the individual members, families whose belief that serving God, helping others, and working hard within your family is valued far more than "worldly" things.

Whether you think the Amish live the ideal life – or you think they are missing out on it – isn't the point. To me, the greatest reward you can take away in your efforts to satisfy your curiosity about the Amish is coming to understand, and respect, why the Amish live the way they do, regardless of whether you agree. But, efforts to understand the Amish have not come easy for us "englishers". The Amish VIP (Visit-In-Person) Tour goes a long, long way in helping make this happen.

The first stop is at an Amish family farm at milking time. Visitors meet the Amish farmer, who himself talks about his perspective of the Amish way, be it the business or family side of Amish life.

A clue to the second stop on this intimate tour (shuttle size limits guests to 14 passengers) is the many signs along the road announcing wares for sale – eggs, cheese, root beer, even furniture. The fact is, roughly half of the Amish here make their living at something other than farming. This is critical in understanding the Amish way of life of today, and, that is what the second stop of the Amish VIP Tour focuses on.

The second stop could be just about any type of Amish family business. Stops rotate by day, depending on which Amish family business may be available, but what visitors can count on is close, personal interaction with an Amish craftsman. His perspective on the Amish way will be slightly different compared to the dairy farmer, yet with critically important common themes. You may well be meeting an Amish quilter, but sewing is only the tip of the needle. Blacksmiths, carpenters, weavers, soap-makers, even decorative gourd crafters – all are possible stops on the tour.

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The third, and final, stop before returning back to "the outside world" is simply with an Amish family in their home for a visit. In this case, the word visit is truly a verb. Among the Amish, visiting means to share information, chat about happenings in the family, catch up on the status of friends, and to update their fellow community-members on what is going on in their lives. This may seem like a tall order for a group of up to 14 out-of-town visitors and an Amish family, but conversation that may begin haltingly soon becomes as fluid as if everyone had known each other for years. In fact, when it is time to leave, visitors have come to see that the Amish have plenty in common with them. Raising children, living peaceably with neighbors, balancing work with family time, even the best places to get a cheeseburger – you just never know just what you'll discuss and discover. But, from start to finish, this is sure to be an authentic, real and memorable experience.

Tours depart at 5:00pm Monday through Friday from the Amish Experience Theater at Plain & Fancy Farm along the scenic and pastoral highway that is RT 340 between Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse. More often than not, the VIP Tour sells out, so that reservations ahead of time are definitely encouraged. Tickets can be purchased online at www.amishexperience.com or by calling 717-768-8400 extension 210. If you'd rather get tickets in person, the Amish Experience at Plain & Fancy Farm can be plugged into a GPS: 3121 Old Philadelphia Pike, Ronks PA, 17572. Prepare yourself for one unforgettable evening

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Don't Just Make Yourself at Home, Make Your Home Yourself... at Country Home Furniture

by Clinton Martin

Who doesn't appreciate the elegance of beautiful high-quality furniture? PA Dutch Country has become a hotbed of creativity and ingenuity when it comes to gorgeous furniture. Amish and Mennonite woodworkers have been quietly revolutionizing the furniture market with pieces that are very affordable, yet made with pride and skill that shows in the exceptional craftsmanship.

However, with countless small carpentry shops dotting the countryside, how do you choose the right storefront for such an important purchase? Many sit in their car for hours, maybe even days, driving around Amish Country sifting through the dozens of furniture shops in search of the quality, solid wood, locally made furniture of their dreams.

Thankfully, there is a better solution. Walking through the doors of Country Home Furniture is like logging all those hours in a brief instant. The showroom has pieces from area Amish and Mennonite family businesses, all of which are strictly hand-picked for the quality of their work. The prices are well-below what you would see at the mega retail stores, and since Country Home Furniture arranges shipping, you can shop with ease without worrying about how to get it all home.

It might sound strange to shop for furniture by following your nose, but the look of the furniture is only part of the process. In fact, one of my favorite reasons for visiting Country Home Furniture is the wonderful aroma when you first walk in. True hardwood furniture retains that earthy smell of the native wood. No cheap veneers and flimsy particle board here, and you will quickly note that the lengths of oak, cherry, maple, and others, each has its own natural perfume.

The colors and textures of the wood can be adapted to fit your home's décor, as Country Home Furniture offers a great variety of different stains and treatments, including a fully customizable line of furniture allowing you to choose your upholstery and hardware to finish off a piece to your exact liking.

Country Home Furniture is conveniently located at the Shady Maple complex, home to other visitor favorites too. You can spend almost an entire day shopping, dining, and relaxing. The complex is open Monday through Saturday when you'll be able to engage the friendly staff, ready to help you with every aspect of the shopping experience. However, if you must browse Country Home Furniture on a Sunday, you can do so online at www.chfs1.com. Call 717-354-2329, for more details.

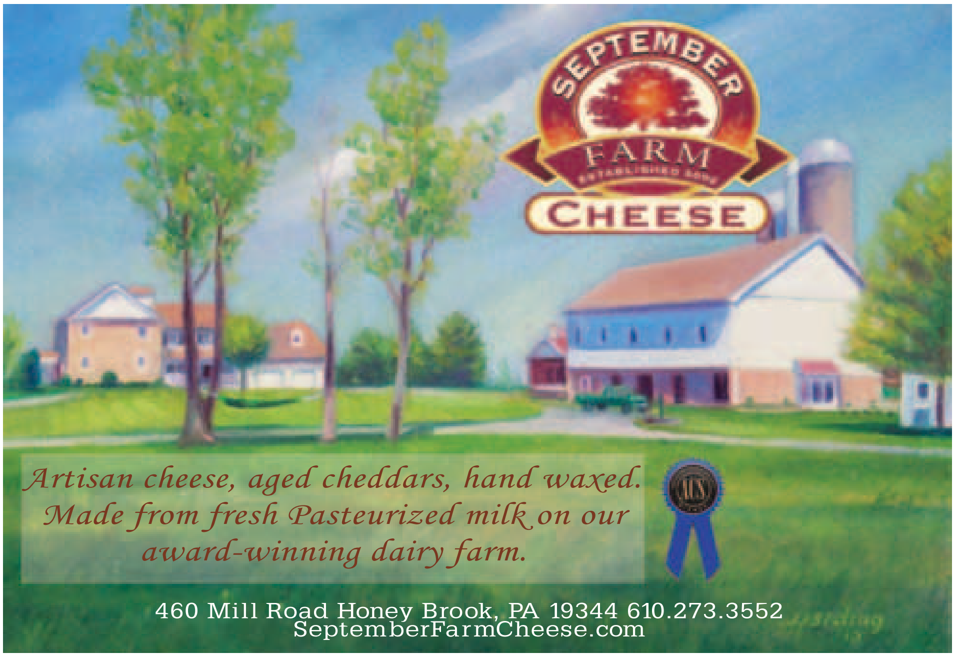
Shopping For A Memory at Shupp's Grove

by Clinton Martin

If you haven't heard yet, our own Adamstown PA, here in the heart of PA Dutch Country, has earned the title of "Antiques Capital USA." And, there certainly are dozens of antique shops in this small northern Lancaster County community. But, few of us have time to explore them all in even a couple of days so…where to shop? Here's a personal recommendation that I'll gladly stand behind.

Shupp's Grove is a lovely shaded park-like outdoor shopping venue absolutely perfect for hosting weekend antique markets. Since 1962, Shupp's Grove has become an institution to memory and bargain hunters who have enjoyed the Thrill of the Hunt.

So, what are you waiting for? Whether you consider yourself a collector, or if you are just curious about what you might find, you owe it to yourself to find out why Shupp's Grove is known to us locally as "The Picker's Market, where REAL DEALS still happen." Call 717-484-4115 for more information, or visit online at www.shuppsgrove.com.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Farm Fresh Produce and a Lot More!

I'm just going to come out and say it, "Don't miss a visit to Kauffman's Fruit Farm, or a truly authentic Amish Country experience will have escaped you!" This family-owned farm market dates back nearly 100 years. Alongside the freshest fruit from their own orchards, you'll find delicious baked goods, PA Dutch meat and cheese specialties, and enough local items to pack an entire ice chest for the ride home, and, many do just that!

When generations of family farmers have planted, tended, harvested, and sold fresh apples, pears, peaches, and other fruits from the same soil for so long, you know when you bite into the bounty of their harvest, you're about to taste something special. Kauffman's is perhaps most famous for a blend of apples that ends up as cider with a taste that is simply indescribable. Thankfully, it is on sale year-round in single-serving and family-sized portions. Stop in and pick up a pint, or gallon, depending upon the size of your family! While there, you can't miss the in-store beehive (don't worry you're separated by glass) and no one will blame you for picking up a jar of honey from bees that you've personally met! To learn more, visit www.kauffmansfruitfarm.com or call 717-768-7112.

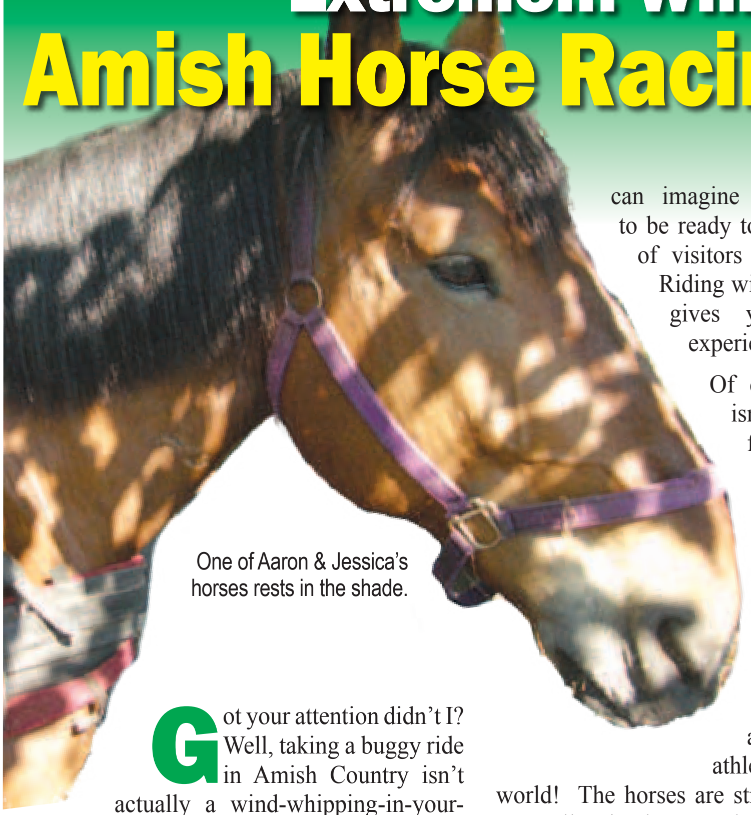
Kauffman's Orchards

In search of a few good apples!

Extreme!!! White-Knuckle!!!

Amish Horse Racing at it's finest!!!

by Clinton Martin



One of Aaron & Jessica's horses rests in the shade.

Open-sided wagons offer visitors pristine sight-seeing views.

Got your attention didn't I? Well, taking a buggy ride in Amish Country isn't actually a wind-whipping-in-your-face kind of experience, but don't let the "slowdown" be a "letdown!" Taking an Amish buggy ride is great family fun, and the breeze really does feel cool as you clip-clop along. Taking a buggy ride means experiencing what it is like to get around like the Amish do, and for many years now taking a buggy ride in Lancaster County has meant going to Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides.

Many visitors usually think of the one "classic" style of buggy – what would be considered the "family sedan" by most Amish families. But, there really are dozens of different types of Amish carriages. Different designs are used for different tasks, and when it comes to giving visitors an authentic Amish buggy ride, you can imagine the carriage needs to be ready to give a small group of visitors a comfortable ride. Riding with Aaron & Jessica's gives you a chance to experience an Amish SUV!

Of course, the carriage isn't the only important factor in getting around Amish-style. You've got to have a good horse too. The hard-working equine employees at Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides often seem larger-than-life, but after all, these are the athletes of the Amish world! The horses are strong and sturdy, and are well-trained to trot the same roads that we "English" traverse in our cars.

Young and old alike enjoy meeting the horses before stepping on board the carriage. Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides leave from a nice grove of shade trees, surrounding a real covered bridge, on the western side of Plain & Fancy Farm, where on the eastern end, you'll find the Amish Experience Theater. There is even a nice picnic area for visitors to enjoy while waiting for their turn. Usually, the wait is only about 5-10 minutes, as carriages depart continuously every few minutes.

When you arrive, you'll be asked to choose a ride. Yes, there is more than just one type of ride. For a little introduction into the world of horse-drawn travel, you can go with the "cookie run" which takes about 20 minutes or so. This includes a brief stop at an Amish farm where, you guessed it, you can buy a couple of homemade cookies or other treats to snack on.

Longer, more interactive rides are also available to visitors who wish to get a more in-depth experience, so ask about the options when you arrive. No reservations are necessary. Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides accepts cash, but tickets can be purchased on a credit card in the restaurant at Plain & Fancy Farm.

Whichever option you choose, you'll be sure to understand more about why the Amish live the way they do, even if only by slowing down the pace a little, and seeing more of the scenery than you can take in when whizzing around in a car.

For more information call 717-768-8828 or go online to www.amishbuggyrides.com.

Listen to the clip-clop echo in the covered bridge.

STOP
LOOK
LISTEN

When is it my turn to pull the carriage?

Make Tracks to the Strasburg Rail Road

Special to Amish Country News

Kids, young and young-at-heart, love the Rail Road

Playing with trains takes on new meaning at the Strasburg Rail Road. From the sight of the 100-ton authentic steam locomotive, to the sound of the whistle, and the hiss of the engine – this stop along the tracks is unlike any other place you'll visit in Amish Country. In fact, as you travel through the backyards of the working Amish farms and the rolling hills of Pennsylvania Dutch Country, it's tough to imagine a better place.

A real working railroad, the trains that run these tracks date back more than one hundred years, though, you wouldn't know as you stand aside the massive, well-maintained "iron horse," watching as she connects to her passenger cars, ready for her next trip. Running on an average of 7,500 gallons of water and a half-ton of coal per trip, the Strasburg Rail Road train moves effortlessly through 1,000 acres of farmland to Paradise, PA and back.

Your 45-minute journey begins on the platform of the East Strasburg Station, circa 1915. With ticket in hand, you take your seat. How you ride is up to you. Choose Coach, First-Class, or live it up in luxury aboard the President's Car. You can even enjoy a meal aboard the Dining Car, the only wooden dining car still in operation today. Stay on board for the entire trip, or take a break mid-way to picnic along the tracks at Groff's Grove. Ride "open-air" and soak in all the wonders outside your window – animals, cornfields, wheat, barley, pumpkins and more.

At the station, pint-sized passengers have a ball with the Cranky Cars. Six hand-propelled cars, allow little ones to take control as they crank their way around a track. The authentic Pump Car lets you test your own power as you move up and down the track. And, the SRR is one of just a few places where passengers can ride behind a Cagney locomotive. This miniature steam engine is just a fraction of the size of a traditional locomotive, but musters up plenty of might as it pulls its load around the property.

From the signature train ride to its special events (see theme article) the SRR has become one of the most popular destinations for families, couples and train enthusiasts across the country. Whenever you visit, whether you like to shop or dine, watch or ride – there is something for everyone where playing with trains truly is a game for all ages.

For more information on the Strasburg Rail Road train times or to purchase tickets, visit StrasburgRailRoad.com, or call 717.687.7522.

TRICIA GOYER
BESIDE STILL WATERS

Based on a True Story

Dear Reader,

A few years ago I met an amazing family. The Esh family inspired this book. Like the Sommer family—my characters in this book—the Eshes lost two daughters in a buggy and truck accident. Also, like the characters in my book, they moved from Indiana to Montana, where they became a part of a small, rural community—and where they discovered God in new and amazing ways.

I was thankful to get to know the Esh family, who took me into their struggle with losing children and moving. They also shared their joy in discovering God in the middle of their faith walk. In addition to that, I got to know many other people from their community. I learned what the Amish believe and why. And as I studied these people I began to think about ways I could apply some of their slow-paced, traditional lifestyle into my own family. No, I'm not going to throw out my television or go buy a horse and buggy, but I have been making a conscious effort to turn off electronics and spend time with my family and friends. I've also been inspired to do more cooking. My family appreciates this!

As readers pick up this story, I pray they will be able to consider things they need to leave behind—old beliefs, old struggles, old worries.

With care,
Tricia Goyer

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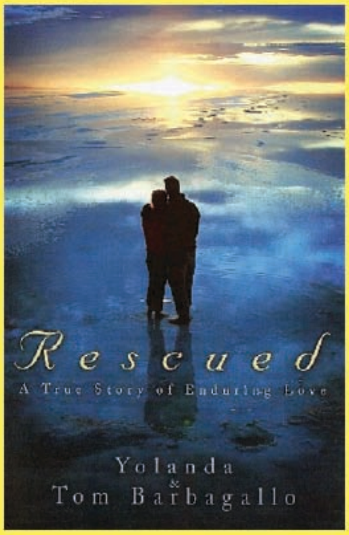

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Yolanda & Tom Barbagallo

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Michelle

"I just finished reading your book and wanted to let you know how much I enjoyed it. You have a great way with detail and a terrific sense of humor. I laughed out loud about some of the things you and Tom laughed about together...I especially enjoyed your stories about your daughters and the children you fostered and could relate to all the job changes you both went through. What a life you have had! Thank you for sharing it with me."
Carol

Making Your Amish Country Visit Event-Full

If you're like me, while on vacation, you like to see if there are any area festivals or special events going on. You probably pick up a publication similar to this and look for a Calendar of Events. In a survey a few years ago, Events ranked at the top of the sections referenced by our readers. Events often provide a way to experience something unique to the destination. In many cases, locals are involved with whom you can "rub shoulders." Some events are so special that visitors even plan their trip around them.

CHOCOLATE WORLD

by Brad Igou

It is really all about how you define the word "event." In Amish Country, it could be anything from a mud sale peopled by 100's of Amish to the nationally recognized Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire. Here are some of my "special" events by season that you would do well to plan a visit around.

SPRING

As the New Year begins, many folks start planning a visit to one of **our famous mud sales**, usually sponsored as fund raisers by community volunteer fire companies. Everything from quilts to Amish buggies and horses to farm equipment are on the auction block. The food is great, and you'll find yourself chatting and interacting with local residents, including many Amish, who enjoy these events as much (if not more) than the rest of us. You might even see a game of Amish corner ball being played. Perhaps the most famous mud sale is in Gordonville (www.GordonvilleFC.com), but come prepared, because the spring thaw has started, and the ground is indeed likely to be muddy. Warm clothing and boots are recommended.

Speaking of quilts, the **American Quilter's Society Show and Contest** in March attracts enthusiasts from across the country. In addition to the show's headquarters at the Convention Center in downtown Lancaster, other exhibits, classes, and special activities are held about the county. A visit to this show will forever change your ideas about quilts (www.AmericanQuilter.com).

SUMMER

Needless to say, this is a busy time for festivals and Dutch Country happenings. Several are noted below, but here let me mention some that are ongoing. The **Cherry Crest Adventure Farm** opens and attracts thousands for its famous **"Amazing Maize Maze,"** and myriad of other farm related activities that everyone enjoys (www.CherryCrestFarm.com). I do find the idea of a flashlight maze intriguing, although I have enough trouble finding my way in the daylight!

For something different, arrive at Cherry Crest by riding the **Strasburg Railroad**, itself the host to many train events that include wine and cheese trains, "Trains & Troops," murder mystery trains, Santa's Paradise Express, and a Day Out With Thomas, hugely popular with the little ones (www.StrasburgRailroad.com).

A couple of newer events not yet largely discovered are the **PA Gourd Fest at the Smucker Gourd Farm** sponsored by The Amish Experience. In keeping with the farm theme, the **Banquet in a Cornfield** features a thoroughly farm-fresh meal, tractor rides, and live music on the family farm of the owners of Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant. (www.bird-in-hand.com)

AUTUMN

Many summer events and activities spill over into the fall. Harvest festivals and themed autumn events are common, but I do want to mention two September favorites beginning with the **Bird-in-Hand "Run, Ride, Soar"** weekend that features marathons, hot air balloons and fun family activities. **Hershey Farm Restaurant's annual Dutch Country Whoopie Pie Festival** is especially noteworthy, with these local treats so much in the national news lately. (www.HersheyFarm.com).

October brings us to **Halloween**, a period full of spooky activities and goings on, with mysterious tours and haunted happenings at many of our museums and historic homes, from themed scream fests to ghost tours. Columbia has an amazing ghost tour, but only for a limited time. Check it out if you can snag tickets. But you don't have to wait until Halloween to enjoy **Ghost Tours in Strasburg or Lancaster City**, ongoing throughout much of the year (www.GhostTour.com). Just writing about them gives me chills.

WINTER

It goes without saying that as we approach Christmas and the holidays, a whole new set of events blanket the area, usually before the first snowfall. Special shows and activities pop up everywhere, and more events ornament our calendar than many a Christmas tree. **Koziar's Christmas Village** opens its spectacular outdoor Christmas light spectacular, causing gasps of delight when first seen on arrival, all reflecting magically off the lake (www.KoziarsChristmasVillage.com).

Although the **National Christmas Center** is open year round, many visitors make a pilgrimage every holiday season. For me, it just wouldn't be Christmas without a visit here, as you literally walk through animated displays, Santa's workshop, the streets of Bethlehem, Christmas around the world, and the most amazing collection of everything Christmas you can imagine. Of course, Santa himself is there for the holidays (www.NationalChristmasCenter.com).

Finally, as the New Year arrives, there are celebrations throughout Amish Country where small towns and cities drop (or raise)

objects ranging from a red rose to a pickle to bologna as we mark the arrival of a new year. Yep, we get a little crazy this time of year. There are lots of other wonderful holiday activities and our roads, restaurants and bed and breakfasts are as peaceful as you'll ever find them. Walk the streets of our marvelous villages, towns and cities, take time to enjoy some hot cocoa with your Holiday Issue of Amish Country News in hand, and start planning next year's return visits to us.

YEAR ROUND

Other activities always making my event lists include some wonderful concerts and theater shows. **Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre** (www.DutchApple.com) produces consistently entertaining shows. Jaw-dropping and inspirational are understatements for the spectaculars at **Sight & Sound Theatres**® (Sight-Sound.com). I do travel downtown to some truly unique Lancaster City entertainment venues including the **Fulton Opera House**, **the Lancaster Symphony**, and **the concert hall** now managed by Millersville University, all on Prince Street, a stone's throw from many art galleries and varied dining opportunities. And, the City hosts all kinds of special activities **First Fridays** of every month in the evening (www.LancasterARTS.com).

While my editorial on Amish Country events and happenings could easily become a treatise, I must conclude, for now, with three wonderful places that I personally recommend….

MOUNT HOPE ESTATE & WINERY

I remember over 25 years ago when there were but a few events held at this magnificent Victorian estate. Back then, selected summer weekends featured a wine and art, Scottish, and even a Civil War reenactment weekend, and a little event that focused on the Renaissance period with a jousting demonstration. Like the mighty oak sprouting from a little acorn, from those humble beginnings grew the **Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire**, today one of the region's top events (see cover story). Mount Hope is now also host to one of the largest **Celtic Festivals** in the country, a **Brew Fest**, the **Great Pennsylvania FlavorFest**, plus many seasonal **"Theater in the Mansion" Productions**. You'll definitely want to bookmark www.parenfaire.com.

TREASURE HUNT ALERT

Every weekend becomes an event with the many antique and craft shows held regularly in the Adamstown area. Favorites include the themed weekends at **Shupp's Grove**, plus **Stoudt's** and **Renninger's Antique Markets**, all easily accessed off the Pennsylvania Turnpike or Route 222 north of Lancaster. The area has so many antique dealers and shops (over 7,000) that it has earned the title of **Antiques Capital USA** (www.AntiquesCapital.com).

LONG'S PARK

A great place to simply relax or picnic, Long's Park off Route 30 west at Harrisburg Pike, is one of my favorite haunts. There are fabulous FREE outdoor summer concerts Sunday evenings, one of my very favorite activities. You'll find this month's concert artists in our events listing pages. The yearly Sunday **July 4th concert** features the 257th Army Band and the 1812 Overture with a battery of authentic cannons blasting away, followed by awesome fireworks. That event usually attracts more visitors than anything else I know around here…about 35,000. Long's Park also hosts the Guinness Book certified **"world's largest chicken barbecue"** every May, sponsored for nearly 60 years by Sertoma Club volunteers, serving over 30,000 dinners! Finally, the **Arts and Crafts Festival** at Long's Park on Labor Day Weekend, considered the third finest art show of its kind in the United States, attracts visitors and juried artisans from all over the country (www.longspark.org).

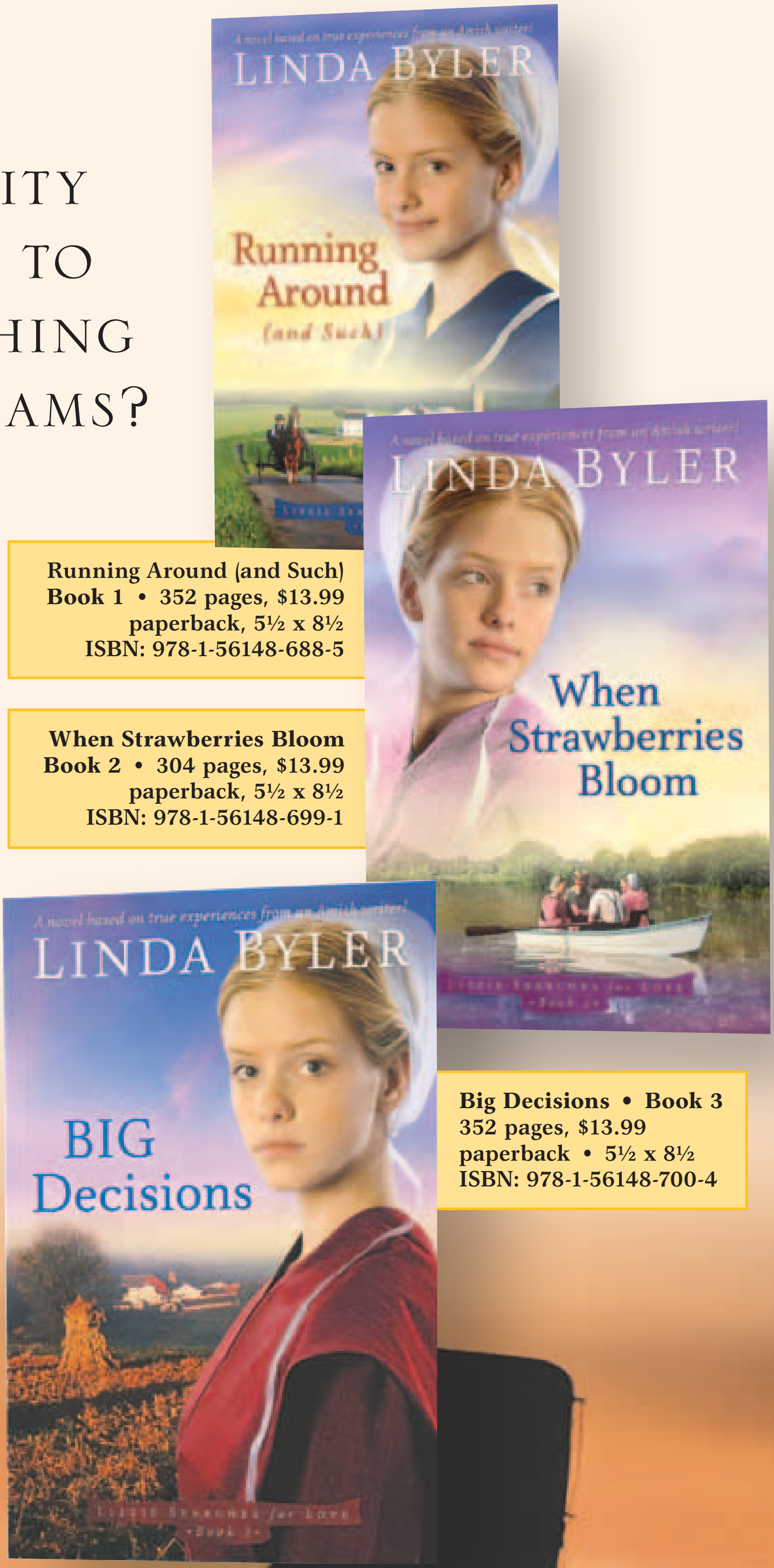
Believe me, there is so much to do, that even those of us who live here have difficulty finding time to do even our most favorite events. But, hey…you're on vacation, so make the most of it! An always reliable source for local events is our newly updated website www.amishnews.com (under Planning Your Visit). Here's hoping this and all your future visits truly become "event-full!"

CAN LIZZIE FIND HAPPINESS IN HER *Amish* COMMUNITY OR WILL SHE HAVE TO SETTLE FOR SOMETHING LESS THAN HER DREAMS?

Growing up in a local Amish community, Linda Byler loved to read and write. In fact, she still does. An active member of the Amish church, Byler has captured the true experiences of growing up in the plain community in her novels.

The first book in the *Lizzie Searches for Love* series, ***Running Around (and Such)*** tells the story of Lizzie Glick's struggle to find happiness in her Amish community. Lizzie's sisters, Emma and Mandy, are ready to get married and settle into the traditional rhythm of having children and keeping house. But Lizzie isn't sure that's what she wants for her future. It isn't that Lizzie doesn't want to stay Amish. It's just that there's so much to figure out!

Lizzie's adventures continue in ***When Strawberries Bloom***, and ***Big Decisions***, the second and third books in the *Lizzie Searches for Love* series.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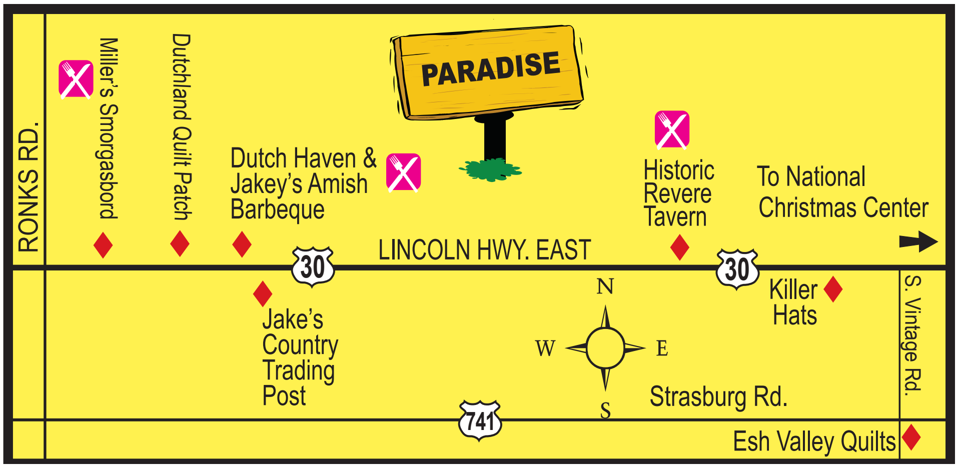
Welcome to Our Paradise



Visitors to Lancaster from the east on RT 30 travel through Paradise, just one of our many intriguing town names. The town's story traces back to Europe over 300 years ago, to the area of the Palatinate in Germany where Protestants had settled following the declaration of King Louis XIV that all Protestants in France would be persecuted. Fearing a French invasion, many accepted the invitation to settle in the New World in William Penn's colony of Penn's Woods. By 1712, they had secured land in Lancaster's Pequea Valley as the area's first white people, living peaceably with local Indians.

The origins of RT 30, also known as "Lincoln Highway," date back to Lancaster's

Colonial days when the frontier county needed a highway to connect it with the provincial capital of Philadelphia. The road that was constructed is now Route 340, still refered to as the "Old Philadelphia Pike." Soon, it was apparent that the Pike was insufficient to handle the increasing traffic, and in 1790, a commission to survey a new route between was created. Since the cost was too much for the state to undertake, the company charged with building it was given the power to demand "reasonable" tolls from users. Investors received dividends earned from tolls collected along the gates of the turnpike. (As the toll was paid, the gate or "pike" was turned, hence the term "turnpike").

The Act described the construction of the highway, which was to be a bed of small crushed stones on top with, rather than dirt, larger stones underneath to prevent carriage wheels from cutting into the soil. This revolutionary system of road construction is credited to a John McAdam, whose name became the term for paved or "macadam" roads. The turnpike opened in 1795 as the first long-distance, hard surfaced road in the country. Taverns and stagecoach shops grew up along the turnpike for weary travelers. Of these, the Revere Tavern, dating back to 1740 and originally called the "Sign of the Spread Eagle", still proudly stands today. In 1841, the tavern became the residence of Reverend Edward V. Buchanan and his wife Eliza Foster Buchanan. Eliza was the sister of Stephen Foster, whose immortal songs will always be a part of Americana. Foster not only penned music at the tavern, but sent many of his manuscripts to Eliza, also a talented musician, for her approval. On the banks of the Pequea Creek, Eliza and Stephen played many of Stephen's 200 songs, including "Way Down Upon the Swanee River" and "Oh, Susanna." So, wherever you happen to call "paradise", we hope you can see that a little bit of our own Paradise absolutely won't do you any harm!

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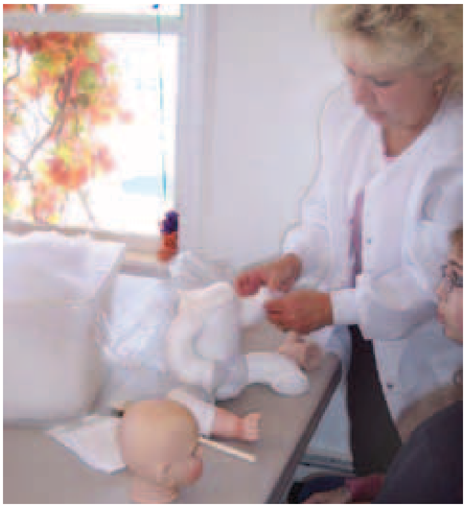
Amish Country's Destination for Dolls

Imagine a doll outlet that carries all of the biggest names in doll design, including yours! While not a collector, and with no daughters or nieces, I must confess I'm not much of a doll shopper, but I can't imagine any store with more of a selection than you'll find at Aimee & Daria's Doll Outlet.



Bring home a new family member from Aimee & Daria's

That you can actually design and create your own doll here is reason enough to visit. It only takes 45 minutes or so to assemble what will soon be your own doll creation, one that only exists in your household. You'll dress him or her, choose the exact hair style and coloring, and of course, pick out all the other essentials. If you already have a doll along, you can enroll both of you (or the entire family) in a doll care class where you will learn general doll care, including how to properly comb and style your doll's hair.

But wait...there's more, including the doll day spa (yes, it's true) where every detail of your doll is attended to.

Aimee & Daria's has grown over the last 17 years from a small one-room shop into a spacious two-story specialty store that would be at home in any shopping destination the world over, but you'll find it right here in Lancaster County on Route 30. You'll marvel at a selection that includes dolls from two inches on up to 42 inches tall. With prices from $2 to $1300, there is a doll to fit any budget. Be sure to check out the many different miniature doll houses and furniture pieces too.

Shopping at this store is a lot of fun, even for the guys out there. Don' leave without a visit to the baby doll adoption nursery center. Call 717-687-8118 or visit www.dolloutlet.com for more on Aimee and Daria's Doll Outlet.

BABY NURSERY

A real adoption center...

...and hair salon!

Planters Galore

JAKE'S COUNTRY TRADING POST

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Donna Sharp and Victorian Heart Purses

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Steelers
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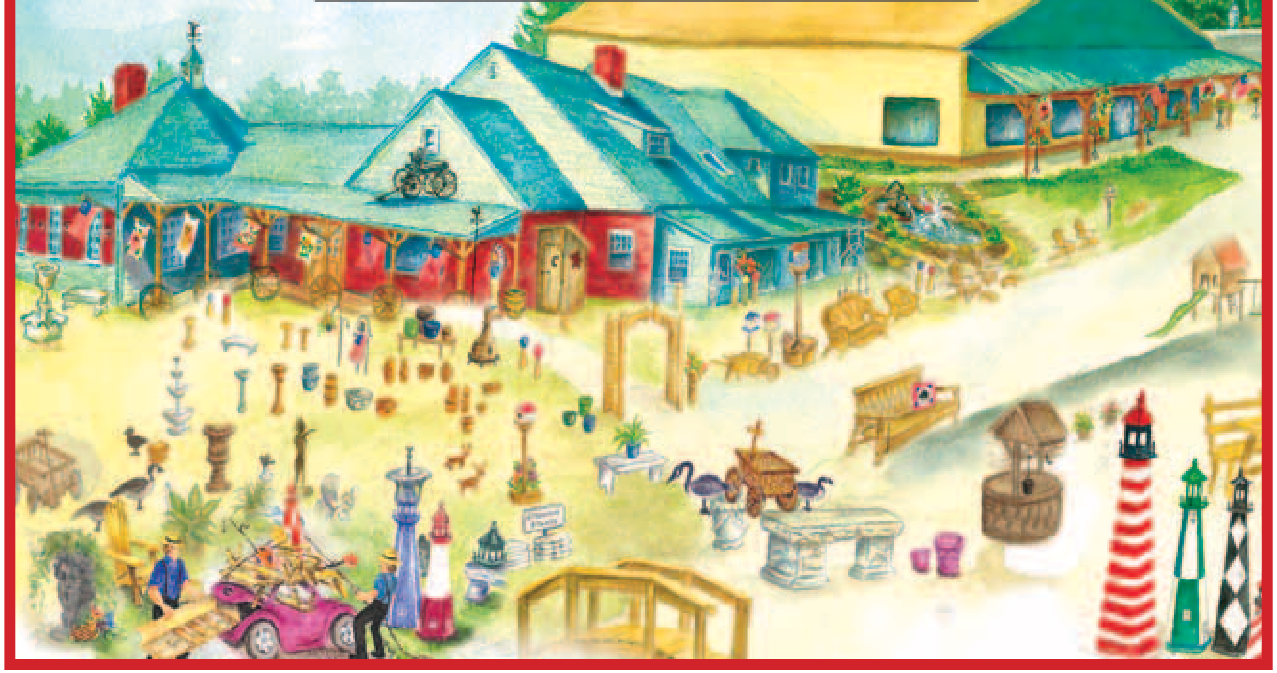
Huge Sports Department

Park Design Curtains



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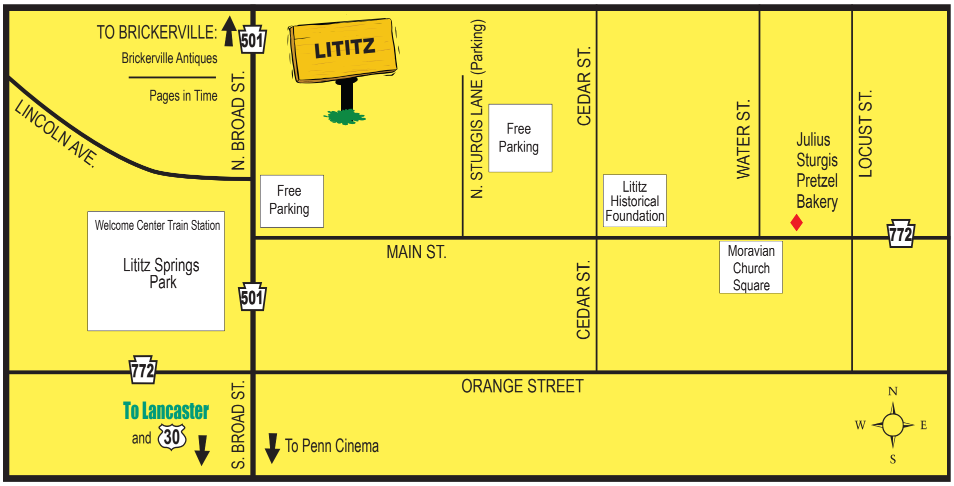
Jake's Frog Family

Historic Lititz • A Hometown Treasure


TO BRICKERVILLE:
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Pages in Time
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N. BROAD ST.
Free Parking
N. STURGIS LANE (Parking)
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CEDAR ST.
Lititz Historical Foundation
WATER ST.
Julius Sturgis Pretzel Bakery
LOCUST ST.
772
Welcome Center Train Station
Lititz Springs Park
MAIN ST.
Moravian Church Square
501
CEDAR ST.
772
ORANGE STREET
To Lancaster and 30
S. BROAD ST.
To Penn Cinema
N
W
E
S

There really is no place quite like Lititz, and visitors should plan time there while in Amish Country. Along with dozens of unique storefronts of family owned specialty shops, Lititz Springs Park, and its idyllic setting are a throwback to a quieter America. Indeed the town's spectacular 4th of July Celebration, begun in 1818, is reputedly the oldest continuing community-wide observance in the United States.

The Lititz story is tied to that of the Moravian faith in Bohemia. It was in the present day Czech Republic that John Hus founded the Moravian Church in 1457. Since this was 60 years before Luther's Reformation, the Moravians may lay claim as the oldest organized Protestant Church. But over the course of the Thirty Years War, its 200,000 members nearly disappeared.

As was the case with other persecuted religious groups in Europe, many Moravians sought freedom by taking the perilous journey to the New World, arriving in the early 1700's, with the main settlements in Pennsylvania and North Carolina. In 1755 the town actually took the name Lititz, the German spelling for Lidice, where European reformers has taken refuge in the 15th century.

In addition to mission work, music and education were important to the Moravians. In fact, the Lititz schoolhouse erected in 1746 marked the beginnings of what was to be Linden Hall, the oldest continuously operating residence school for girls in the United States.

For one hundred years, Moravian church members were the only people permitted to live in the town. A Brothers' House and Sisters' House were erected for the unmarried men and women, although they did not live communally. It was not until 1855 that non-Moravians were allowed to own their own homes. The complex of buildings comprising the Moravian congregation is well worth seeing, particularly the church built in 1787.

Two names are linked forever with the history of Lititz --- Sturgis and Sutter. It was Julius

Tour America's First Pretzel Bakery

1861 2011
Julius Sturgis
PRETZEL BAKERY
Lititz, PA
150th Anniversary

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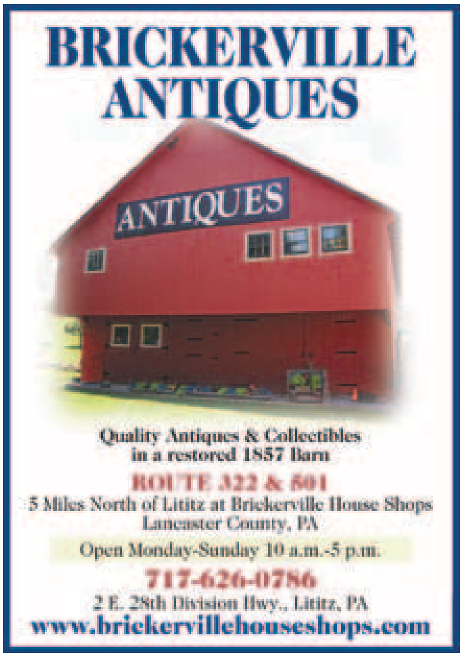
219 East Main Street • Lititz, PA

Sturgis who opened the first commercial pretzel bakery in the New World in Lititz. The year was 1861, and the site at 219 East Main Street is on the National Register of Historic Places. A tour of the bakery, still in operation, is unlike any other and well worth your time.

John Sutter was born in Switzerland and in 1834, fleeing creditors in Europe, arrived in New York. In time, he headed west and sailed up the Sacramento River to begin a settlement. By 1848, work was being done on a mill when some gold flakes were spotted in the water. Soon Gold Rush Fever struck and Sutter's land was overrun. Because of his need to be near Washington, D.C. while seeking reimbursement for his lost lands, the Sutters stayed one summer at the Springs Hotel in Lititz. They decided to make Lititz their home. The hotel has become the General Sutter Inn, and the Sutter home built in 1871 is across the street at 19 East Main Street.

The more you explore Lititz, the more you'll agree it is one of Amish Country's best kept secrets!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The Antique Barn Filled With Memories

by Clinton Martin

Antique Toys Hearken Back to Yesteryear

At the intersection of Routes 322 and 501, north of Lititz, there is a tiny village known as Brickerville. What makes the destination a must-see is the courtyard of shops, alongside an historic restaurant, that all together makes for a great way to spend the best part of your day. The two-story barn there dates back to 1857. It was originally located on Columbia Ave outside of Lancaster City, but in the late 1970s, an Amish crew dismantled it, transported it to Brickerville, and reassembled it. Imagine the tales those wooden beams could talk if given a voice! Strolling among the dozens of dealer displays, their specialties reveal everything from antique furniture to lamps and toys. Some of the more intriguing finds I've seen are antique cash registers, nostalgic toys, quirky old-fashioned advertising, and well-preserved furniture pieces that have seen decades of time go by. Even if you're not thinking of adding an antique piece to your home, why not plan a short trip to Brickerville, stroll the shops, have some lunch and go on a little treasure hunt in this marvelous antique barn. Call 717-626-0786 for more information.

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Great Fun ON Route 501

It's not hard to find (see our map on pages 56 and 57), Route 501 that is. When you're on it, from Lancaster head north towards Lititz. Just before you pass our "bustling airport," you'll want to take note of Airport Road, which leads to our very own IMAX theater at Penn Cinema. Further north is the town of Lititz, with its unique slice of Americana well worth visiting. A little further north is High Sports where, after a round of miniature golf, you'll want to continue to follow your compass north.

In a few short miles, you'll come to the crossroads of Route 501 and 322. Turn right, east that is, and park at the Brickerville House to eat and shop the specialty stores, including Brickerville Antiques in its restored 1857 barn, and the adjacent Pages in Time, with over 50,000 ways for scrapbooking fans to "scrap" their page.

There's still gas in the tank, so either head west on Route 322 to Route 72 North where in a couple of miles you can sample some great wines at Mount Hope Estate, or, head East on Route 322, take 272 North, and in a couple miles you'll be in Adamstown, Antiques Capitol USA.

BLUE BALL-14
BRICKERVILLE
NAMED FOR
PETER BRICKER
PIONEER SETTLER
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1741

Since 1959, Lancaster's First and Foremost Amish Farmland Tours

★★★★★ Amish Farmland Tour...
Review by D on 11/10/10 10:51 AM
The tour was both informative and entertaining. We marveled at many things we'd never seen before - high clothes lines; home additions for grandparents; creative ways to launch businesses. The length of the tour was just right for us. We saw what we wanted without being too tired at the end of the day. Accomodations were comfortable and our guide was considerate and thorough.

★★★★★ SUPERSAVER TOUR ...
Review by ELISA on 4/3/11 10:21 AM
THE SUPERSAVER TOUR WAS GREAT. OUR DRIVER WAS WONDERFUL. HE HAD GREAT KNOWLEDGE OF THE AREA AND THE AMISH PEOPLE. I HAVE BEEN COMING TO LANCASTER FOR OVER 40 YEARS AND NEVER GET TIRED OF VISITING. THE FARM WE VISITED WAS ALSO WONDERFUL. GOT TO SEE THE COWS CLOSE UP INSTEAD OF FROM THE ROAD. I AM ALSO GOING TO DO THE WITNESS TOUR IN OCTOBER 2011. I DID THE FIRST ONE IN 2005 AND HAD A GREAT TIME. ITS WORTH THE MONEY. ENJOY

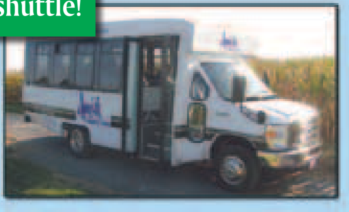
★★★★★ Great Day!...
Review by Carissa on 8/15/10 10:51am
My 13 year old son and I had a wonderful time at the Amish Experience. We did the Super Saver package and it was a great way to spend the whole day! Everyone was super nice and helpful. We learned a lot of things about the Amish way of life on the tour, and given plenty of opportunities to ask questions. Even now, a few weeks after our trip, my son talks about it all the time!

★★★★★ Super Saver Package April 2011...
Review by Chaps on 4/27/11 9:55PM
We came all the way from Mexico to PA for 2 weeks and definitely these Amish tours were a great experience!!!! We loved the tour into the farms, watching the people working their lands, the kids in schools, the cows and mules, the shops..... and what it makes it more enjoyable is the guide, who knows and explains very well the Amish life. Hope we can repeat this experience again.

Real Reviews from Real Visitors

Amish Country Tour Times:
Mon.-Sat. 10am, 12:30pm, 2:30pm • Sun. 11:00am, 1:30pm

See it best on our 14-passenger shuttle!



Tours Depart from Amish Experience Theater at Plain & Fancy Farm
3121 Old Philadelphia Pike • Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505 • Route 340 • 717-768-8400, Ext. 210
www.AmishExperience.com

Amish Heirlooms at Gish's

by Clinton Martin

Extension Tables up to 25 feet

When you step into the beautifully appointed showroom of Gish's Furniture, you are stepping into a delightful story of family, friendship, and outstanding craftsmanship - all from a most simple source. The first chapter actually takes you back to Ohio, to a sort of "sister-city" to our local Amish settlement. Michael Gish, son of A. Samuel and Grace Gish, worked for Miller's Furniture in Plain City, Ohio, where he learned a great deal about the Amish furniture industry. He came to realize however, that even among the Amish community, skill levels were not the same and certain craftsmen were capable of an even higher level of workmanship. It was these, and only these select workshops, that Mr. Gish decided to introduce to his customers. Eventually he decided to move to Pennsylvania and open a furniture showroom featuring incredible pieces from hand-picked artisans. Today, Gish's carries furniture from kitchen tables, hutches, office desks and curios to bedroom furniture and baby cribs. All furniture is primarily available in solid oak or cherry wood and in 15 different stain colors. Since you'd probably never hear Amish craftsmen brag about their work, Michael has to extol their virtues for them! He proudly tells us that, "You can have solid wood, handcrafted furniture, custom made to match your home's décor for what many stores charge for veneers and cheap substitutes. This is furniture built to last a lifetime." Find Gish's Furniture at 2191 Lincoln Hwy. East (Rt.30), Lancaster. Call 717-392-6080 or go online to www.gishs.com for details.

Family Camping With A Twist

by Clinton Martin

Relax by the pool at Lake-In-Wood .

So you've come to visit the beautiful Amish farmland? Great choice! Our verdant fields rolling out like a patchwork quilt are certainly a sight to see. So, when I suggest that you head straight for the hills, and spend the night amongst the woods would it be a contradiction? Absolutely not! There is more to Amish Country than rows of evenly lined crops. We can legitimately claim world-class camping as well.

One of the most intriguing of the camping spots is Lake-In-Wood Camp Resort, located in northern Lancaster County in a wooded area not too far from the Reading/Lancaster exit of the PA Turnpike. You'll enjoy quiet, family-friendly camping at its best. And, if you didn't tug the camper along for your visit, or even pack the tent, Lake-in-Wood has plenty of cabins to rent. Oh, and if you want to be creative, you can rent really interesting overnight accommodations, like a boat, a caboose, or even a double-decker bus. Now that will get the kids, and even the spouse, smiling!

Call Lake-In-Wood at (717) 445-5525, or plan ahead at www.lakeinwoodcampground.com.

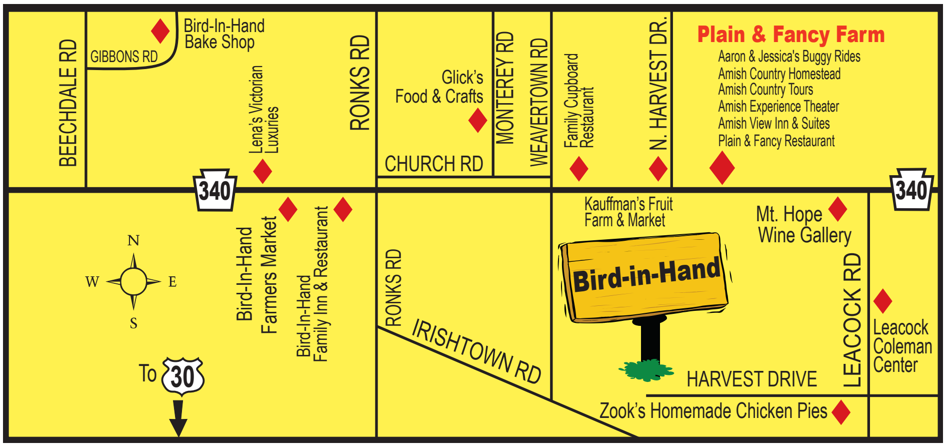
Welcome to the Village of Bird-in-Hand

Of the many unique village names that dot the Amish Country map, one of the more interesting is Bird-in-Hand. When celebrating its 250th Anniversary (1734 – 1984), a commemorative booklet outlined a brief history of the town… William Penn, an English Quaker, had founded the colony of Penn's Woods (Pennsylvania), and settlers began arriving from Europe in the early 1700's, moving westward from the port city of Philadelphia.

The trip by stagecoach for passengers, or Conestoga wagon with freight and merchandise, lasted several days. Inns were built every few miles, identified with signs held by an iron pole or attached to the side of the building. The reason for these signs was twofold. First, they could be understood by all nationalities as most travelers were either English or German-speaking people, but other languages were not uncommon. Secondly, many teamsters or wagoneers were poorly educated and could not read. If they were given orders to stop at a certain inn, they were able to do so by recognizing the artwork on the signboard.

An Amish family shares the highway travelling down Ronks Road on the way to Bird-in-Hand.

The legend of the naming of Bird-in-Hand dates to the time when the Old Philadelphia Pike was being laid out. By 1734, road surveyors were making McNabb's Hotel


Bird-In-Hand Bake Shop
GIBBONS RD
BEECHDALE RD
Lena's Victorian Luxuries
RONKS RD
Glick's Food & Crafts
CHURCH RD
MONTEREY RD
WEAVERTOWN RD
Family Cupboard Restaurant
N. HARVEST DR.
Plain & Fancy Farm
Aaron & Jessica's Buggy Rides
Amish Country Homestead
Amish Country Tours
Amish Experience Theater
Amish View Inn & Suites
Plain & Fancy Restaurant
340
340
N
W
E
S
Bird-In-Hand Farmers Market
Bird-In-Hand Family Inn & Restaurant
To 30
RONKS RD
IRISHTOWN RD
Kauffman's Fruit Farm & Market
Bird-in-Hand
Mt. Hope Wine Gallery
LEACOCK RD
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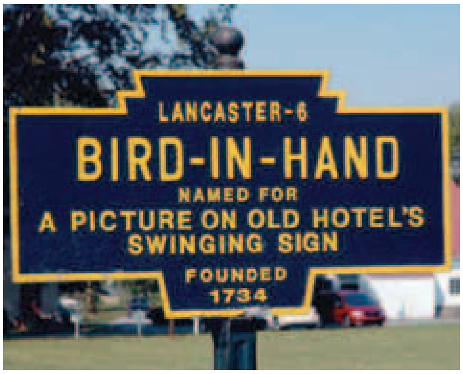
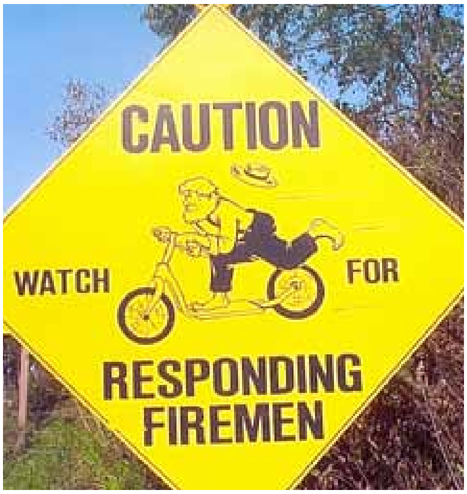


The Pennsylvania State Historical marker only begins to tell the story of Bird-in-Hand.

their headquarters rather than returning to Lancaster every day for lodging. When discussing whether they should stay at their present location or return to Lancaster to spend the night, one of them said, "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush." The sign in front of the inn, which became known as the Bird-in-Hand Inn, is known to have once "portrayed a man with a bird in his hand and a bush nearby, in which two birds were perched. The last hand-painted sign featuring the bird in hand was done by Benjamin Elmer Leaman and his artwork merely portrayed a bird in a hand." Variations of this sign appear throughout the town today.

McNabb's Hotel was destroyed by fire in 1851. By the following year, a three-story hotel was built to replace it. More recently, it was Bitzer's Hotel before becoming the present Village Inn of Bird-in-Hand, a beautiful bed and breakfast property. The Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County states that the existing brick building "may be one of the few 19th century inns in the context of a small town in Lancaster County, which survives with a high degree of architectural integrity." It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

When referring to their bird in hand symbol, some residents say that the bird nestled in the human hand indicates friendship, comfort, and hospitality, all of which you'll discover in this delightful little village of shops, farmers markets and eateries.



The volunteer firemen of the Hand-in-Hand Fire Company are often paged while out in the fields or at work. Non-Amish volunteers usually jump in their vehicle and arrive with flashing lights. But some Amish volunteers who live nearby might be seen going down the road on their scooters. For a few years (the matter of the sign's disappearance is unresolved as far we know to this day), this one-of-a-kind road side cautioned drivers to be alert for those "responding firemen."

Bird-in-Hand
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Appearing Soon in Amish Country News

by Clinton Martin

Whether you are reading these words on the printed page, or you've joined our little corner of cyberspace to catch up on Amish Country happenings, we thank you for your visit. But, you haven't nearly seen enough! I suggest you plan on returning to Amish Country, and Amish Country News soon, and again and again. Four wonderful seasons. Spring is very unlike Summer, which is wholly different than Fall, and Winter is unique beyond a doubt! The events, freshly harvested foods, and exciting sights and smells change with each.

September Issue -- Family-Owned Businesses.

Depending on what part of the Country you're from, you might think of family-owned businesses as a dying breed, a nostalgic reminder of days gone by. But, here there are literally thousands of small, family-run shops, restaurants, attractions, hotels – family hospitality to host you for dozens of Amish Country vacations! We can't wait to share some of our favorite family-owned business profiles with you.

October Issue – Annual Dining Guide

Just about the time you've discovered the families behind the hospitality industry, it's time to pick up the October issue of Amish Country News. Most of the choice crops have been harvested. It's time for stirring, slicing, basting, broiling, and blanching. And… eating, and drinking, as we'll also be reviewing local wineries and microbreweries! Look for tasty editorials featured alongside restaurants that have made Amish Country a beloved dining destination. They'll be reviewed, profiled, and otherwise "road-tested" to give you a masterpiece of a menu to nibble on.

Holiday/Winter Issue -- Dutch Country Shopping Guide

And, finally, when the plates have been washed, and the silver put away, it's time to stake out hiding spots in your house for the "Do Not Open Until Christmas" boxes. When the wintry air starts to swirl around the countryside, better pick-up our Holiday/Winter issue. Here the shopping variety is staggering. Our handy gift-giving guide and secret shoppers' weapons will undoubtedly lead you to new treasured shops, score great bargains, and find fun places to pick up one-of-a-kind gifts.

Enjoy the rest of this issue, and the wonderful sights, sounds, smells and tastes of this place we love calling home.

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Bird-in-Hand PA 17505
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Bring in this ad for
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one item.

Amish Country's Baskets and Accessories Authority

by Clinton Martin

Baskets are made, and used, all over the world, so it isn't surprising that basket weaving is right at home here in Amish Country. Hard work and commitment are synonymous with the PA Dutch culture and ethic. Many Amish families produce baskets of great quality. But, for what is probably the largest and finest selection under one roof, you'll have to visit Basket Accessories in the middle of the village of Intercourse.

Storage never looked this good!

Basket Accessories has spent more than 20 years growing the definitive basket business and the vast selection proves they've found amazing sources for the craft. Of course there's plenty of locally hand-made baskets, but what makes the shop truly unique are the myriad of accessories - painted, unpainted, and acrylic lids, shelves, liners, and protectors, both for the Amish baskets and commercially produced lines. You'll also find wrought iron to complement any basket decoration for you to put together your own decorative ensemble. Call 877-808-LIDS, or go to www.basketaccessories.com for additional information.

the Amish Experience at Plain & Fancy Farm

1959 52nd Anniversary 2011

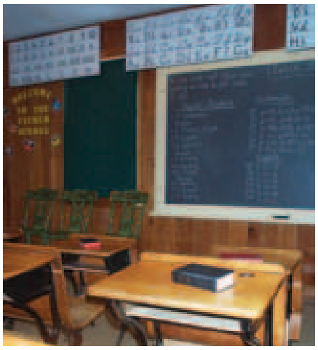
Last year marked the 51st anniversary of three of Lancaster's premiere attractions, all at one location on the AAA designated Scenic Cultural Byway, Route 340, mid-way between Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse.

This year marked the 52nd anniversary of Plain & Fancy Farm as the very first family-style restaurant. It remains a legendary dining experience. At the same time, Amish Country Tours (Dutchland Tours) began the first regularly scheduled tours for visitors through the scenic Amish farmlands. And 1959 also marked the opening of the Amish Country Homestead, the only Amish house tour designated a Heritage Site by Lancaster County.

Amish House Tour Unravels Riddles

Amish people wouldn't appreciate visitors walking through their homes all day…nor would you! So the best way to see the inside of a house is on a tour. At the Amish Country Homestead, the staff is committed to interpreting the changing Amish lifestyle. Rather than a museum, it has the feel of a real, "lived in" home. Guides take visitors on a fascinating 45-minute tour through the nine rooms. Discover how church is held in the home and hear the singing. See how Mom does her laundry---with a gasoline engine! Upstairs learn about Plain dress, while the kids enjoy the marble rollers.

The Fisher Amish Schoolroom is where you (or the kids) can sit at actual Amish school desks and learn how all eight grades are taught in one room. An Amish schoolteacher helped decorate the room to give it the feel of a real school. It's all included in the house tour.



Interpreting the ever-changing Amish culture respectfully and accurately is no easy task. The authenticity of the Amish Country Homestead resulted in its designation as the only Heritage Site Amish house tour in Lancaster County.

Amish Hi-Tech

In 1995, a new concept in interpreting Amish life debuted when the Amish Experience F/X Theater became only the third "experiential" theater in North America. The goal of this one-of-a-kind project was to give a more personal, intimate view of the Amish, connecting past to present. Rather than a somber documentary, the story goes inside an Amish family as their son Jacob struggles to decide whether to remain in the Amish faith.

An important missing link in most tellings of the Amish story is the persecution of the Anabaptists in Europe and the perilous journey to America. Rather than observe, visitors will now feel a part of history as special effects, including an amazing technology called "Pepper's Ghost," combine with smoke, wind, rain, and fire effects in a wrap-around barnyard setting.

A superb blending of entertainment and education, this touching and exciting production has moved some people to tears and children to exclaim "Wow!" This show, which has been called "400 years of history in 40 minutes of magic," can only be seen here in Lancaster, so be sure to make it a part of your visit. (Shows on the hour.)

Where the Amish Live & Work

Visitors who simply drive around looking at Amish farms rarely come away with much insight into the unique culture that attracts people from around the world. Amish Country Tours provide certified guides to take visitors down the backroads, deep into the farmlands and scenery that is as beautiful now as it was 50 years ago. Guides offer fascinating information on

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www.AmishExperience.com

the Amish Experience Theater

Experience FX Theater
Open 7 Days: 10am-5pm
Country Homestead
Open 7 Days:
10:30am-4:15pm

Valid up to four adults. Not valid with other coupons or offers.
Must be presented at time of purchase. Expires 12/31/11.

one-room schools, farming practices, "cottage industries," wedding customs, and more. Did you know there are Amish millionaires?

Amish Farmland Tours	
Monday-Saturday **10am, 12:30pm, 2:30pm**	**Sunday** **11am** **1:30pm**

But you are not just sitting on the 14-passenger shuttle the whole time. Whenever possible, a stop is made at an actual Amish farm. Other stops may include a local bakeshop, roadside stand, or craft shop. Having a guide is recommended over tape tours, which are often outdated and can never answer questions about special activities you may see that day. Purchase tickets for this 90-minute tour online at AmishExperience.com.

A Lancaster Original

Amos, Ben, Manny and Elmer are the Amish farmers who supply the Plain & Fancy Farm Restaurant with sweet corn, tomatoes, watermelon, cabbage, broccoli, squash, peppers and onions. These neighbors, and the neighbors before them, have helped Plain & Fancy Farm Restaurant go "from farm to table" for over 50 years. The restaurant is AAA recommended, a PA Preferred and ServSafe award winner, and the Pennsylvania recipient of USA Today's Great Plate Award.

The Amish Farm Feast

Plain & Fancy Farm Restaurant is best known for being Lancaster County's original family-style restaurant. The all-you-can-eat Amish Farm Feast includes your entrees, side dishes, starters, desserts and beverages. Enjoy fried chicken, roast beef, chicken pot pie, baked sausage, real mashed potatoes, buttered noodles, green and yellow string beans, dried sweet corn, chow chow, cole slaw, raisin bread, rolls and apple butter, lemonade, iced tea, hot tea, coffee, sour cream apple crumb pie, shoo-fly pie and vanilla ice cream. A $3 off coupon valid for each adult in the party can be found adjacent to this article.

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if problem with Bird-in-Hand, try Ronks PA
* With this ad. Prices, menus, specials & hours subject to change

$3 Off
Lancaster's Original
Amish Farm Feast

Feast includes entrees, sides, starters, beverages and desserts and is valid for up to 6 adults. Not valid Easter, Mother's Day, Thanksgiving or w/ any other offer, special, group rate. Not valid on ala carte menu. Expires 12/31/11 **PLU 505**

The New "ala carte" Menu

The restaurant also offers a new ala carte menu featuring mouth watering appetizers, signature soups and salads, charbroiled burgers and sandwiches, and made-from-scratch entrees and platters. The ala carte menu is also a great value with Lunch Specials from $7.95 and Dinner Specials from $10.95.

The Country Store

Find books, videotapes, candles, souvenirs and local handcrafts, and more. Explore The Country Store's collection of traditional Amish clothing, straw hats, bonnets, toys and dolls, and discover new treasures to adorn your kitchen and home. You'll find seasonal items as well as Christmas decorations, available year-round. The store also features Kitchen Kettle jams and jellies, bakery fresh items from Miller's Bakery, and Plain & Fancy chow chow and apple butter.

AmishView Inn & Suites

While you're at Plain & Fancy Farm, you're invited to stroll up and visit AmishView Inn & Suites, a classically beautiful hotel that features elegant accommodations and incredible views. If time permits, a front desk representative can provide you with a quick tour of the hotel. The indoor pool, fitness center, arcade, whirlpools and fireplaces make AmishView perfect for an intimate getaway, family vacation, or corporate retreat. Complimentary hot country breakfast, wire-less internet, HBO, DVD players, special amenities and kitchenettes come with every room.

Where It All Began

With all of these amenities and attractions in one beautiful location surrounded by Amish farmland, the Amish Experience at Plain & Fancy is the ideal starting point to enjoy all that the area has to offer as you create your own special Lancaster County experience!

Come Relax at Our Dairy Farm!

Riehl's Quilts & Crafts

Sam and Susie Riehl began married life as dairy farmers, just like many other young Amish couples. The family farm was an ideal place to raise a family, to work in a traditional environment.

Susie's mother lived with the couple, and found a useful way to contribute to the family's well-being by making and selling quilts from the basement of the house.

The dairy operation was still priority number one, but the quilts certainly helped the family with an important boost. As time went on, and milk prices continued to lag behind the cost of producing it, the quilts became even more important.

These days, the dairy operation is still an integral part of the farm, but the quilt shop has grown and expanded from being in the basement to a stand-alone beautifully constructed store right next to the barn.

It has become a common site for the Riehl family to be hitching up the team of horses for some field work, and then ten minutes later be greeting visitors from near and far, helping them find just the right quilt. Just as the quilt business has grown, so too has their line of locally hand-made products.

Sixteen years later, you can find an excellent variety of quilts, crafts, canned goods, books, and of course the interesting multi-use "quillow" that you'll just have to go and ask about.

All in all, the family business is supported by no less than 170 local Amish families that produce goods for sale, work in the shop, or lend a hand in other ways.

Call for Catalog or Information.

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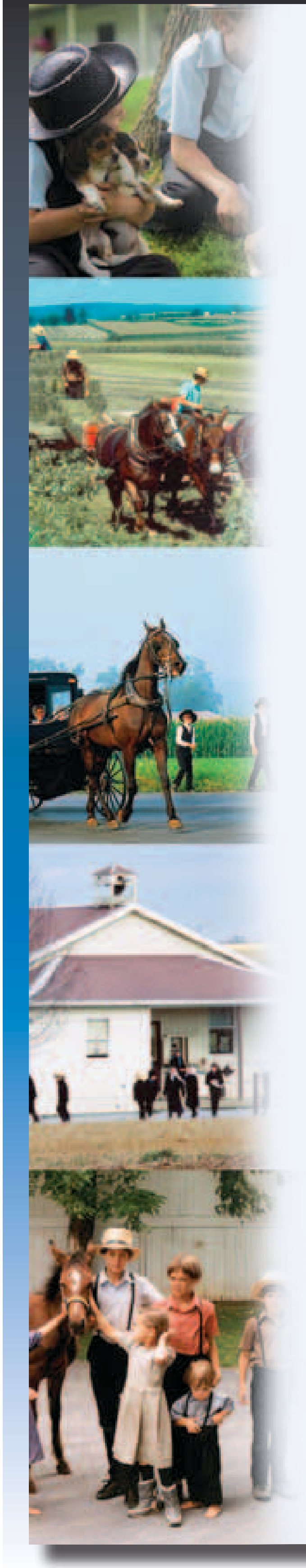
2011 Amish Series

by Brad Igou

Pay Unto Caesar: The Amish and Social Security (Part 2 of 2)



Many people think the Amish do not pay taxes. They do. But they have been exempted from paying Social Security. This story is little known to the general public today. It is full of drama, clashes with the government, issues of religious freedom, politics, and much more. For writing this 5-part series, I was privileged to have access to many original materials and personal letters.

Part 2: The Amish vs. the IRS

While Social Security was called a tax and administered by the IRS beginning in the 1950's, it was also clearly described as a form of old age and survivors insurance. In a 1961 IRS press release, the IRS recognized the Amish stance that "Social Security payments, in their opinion, are insurance premiums and not taxes. They, therefore, will not pay the 'premium' nor accept any of the benefits."

As usually happens in these matters, it is one case that tends to catapult the situation into the public eye. That case would be the collection of payments from Valentine Byler, an Amish farmer living near New Wilmington, in western Pennsylvania. According to various articles, books, and sources, this is basically the series of events as they occurred...

By 1959, Valentine Byler owed four years of Social Security taxes. The IRS added the interest owed and came up with a total of $308.96.

Byler explained that his religion forbid paying insurance. When he was told that this was a mere technicality and that it was indeed a tax, he apparently replied, "Doesn't the title say Old Age, Survivors and Disability Insurance?"

The IRS had tried to levy Valentine's bank account, but he had none. In 1960, after refusing a summons to appear in court, he was cited for contempt and brought to the Pittsburgh U.S. District Court. According to a Reader's Digest article, the judge "angrily demanded of the IRS agents, 'Don't you have anything better to do than to take a peaceful man off his farm and drag him into court?' " The case was dismissed.

But the IRS was undaunted and, according to its own press release, this is what happened next on April 18, 1961...

Since Mr. Byler had no bank account against which to levy for the tax due, it was decided as a last desperate measure to resort to seizure and sale of personal property.

It was then determined that Mr. Byler had a total of six horses, so it was decided to seize three in order to satisfy the tax indebtedness. The three horses were sold May 1, 1961 at public auction for $460. Of this amount, $308.96 represented the tax due and $113.15 represented the expenses of the auction sale, including feed for the horses, leaving a surplus of $37.89 which was returned to the taxpayer.

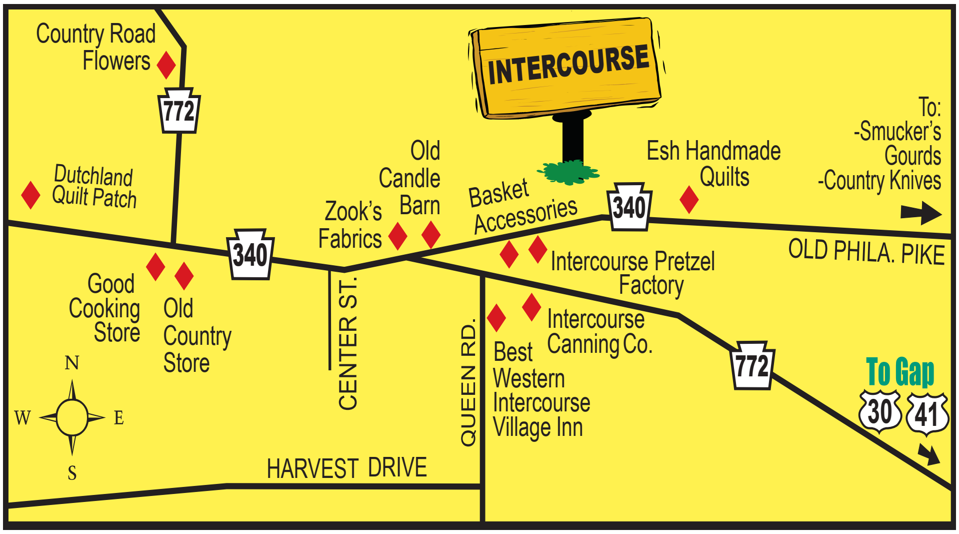
The Byler case, like all others in the same category, presents an unpleasant and difficult task for the Internal Revenue Service...We have no other choice under the law.

Valentine was literally in his field with his team of horses doing some work prior to spring plowing when his horses were seized. He needed these horses to prepare his fields, do his planting, reap the harvest, and earn his living. The harnesses were also taken and included in the sale. According to a book describing the auction, The Amish in Court, no Amish came to bid on the horses and, due to a lack of bidders, they went for a good price, with the harnesses "thrown in" by the auctioneer. (Valentine borrowed his neighbor's horses to finish his plowing.)

Immediately after the seizure and sale, the Pittsburgh IRS Chief of Collections responded he was unaware of the plowing situation. "Plowing never occurred to me. I live in an apartment." He was furthermore quoted as saying, "We don't ask people their race or religion when we administer the tax laws. People have no right to use their religion as an excuse not to pay taxes."

Next issue --- Part 3: The Media Gets Involved

Welcome to Intercourse PA


Country Road Flowers
772
Dutchland Quilt Patch
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INTERCOURSE
Basket Accessories
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Esh Handmade Quilts
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To: -Smucker's Gourds -Country Knives
OLD PHILA. PIKE
To Gap
30
41

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Perhaps no other town in the entire country can claim its fame on one simple thing --- its name. Harrison Ford drove a buggy past the road sign on a memorable visit in the Hollywood blockbuster hit of the movie Witness. For years people have postmarked "Intercourse" on envelopes, and the jokes from visitors who travel through Bird-in-Hand to Intercourse are endless. There are several theories for the name, but that which we find most plausible follows.

Around 1730, the Old Provincial Highway (now Route 340) was laid out to connect Philadelphia with Lancaster. Conestoga wagons hauled freight back and forth between the two cities. Providing rest for travelers and horses, taverns sprouted along the way, becoming centers for news, gossip, and commerce. The construction of a log tavern in 1754 at the intersection of

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Newport Road and the Highway took "Cross Keys" as its name.

It remained such until 1814, when the name was changed to Intercourse as part of a failed real estate scheme of a Mr. George Brungard, who had acquired 48 acres of nearby land and attempted to lay out a town site and divide it into sections for sale by a lottery, advertising "151 handsome building lots of $250 each to be drawn for by number." Renaming the town made sense, as intercourse had a common usage referring to the pleasant mutual fellowship and frequent intermingling which were so common in the informal atmosphere of the quiet country village.

Over time, Brungard's scheme begat others. As recently as 1971, an enterprising soul tried to take advantage of the town's name by selling deeds for one-inch square plots of Intercourse to visitors. Creative, but nonetheless a failure. By 1880, Intercourse had a population of 280 with a post office that actually moved among stores or restaurants as owners hoped visits by residents would increase their business.

The local stagecoach service started around 1898 as "a single horse conveyance similar to a

Continued on pagefrom Page 36

Lena's Victorian Luxuries

by Clinton Martin

If location, location, location is really key, well then Lena's Victorian Luxuries must be the smartest shop in Lancaster County! When you think "quaint Amish countryside town," chances are Bird-In-Hand would be at the top of your list. Well, you can't get any closer to the heart of Bird-In-Hand without setting foot on Lena's front porch. This incredible shop is amazing in many ways, but you'll especially notice the splendid selection of lace and other fine wares. You'll find most of the usual Amish Country gifts, but Lena's also has an interesting variety that you just don't find elsewhere. Call at 717-509-1983 for store hours.

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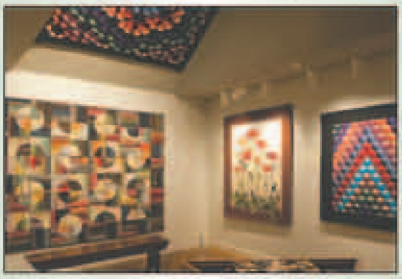

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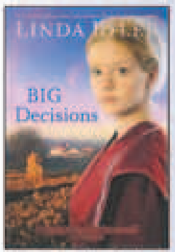

Lizzie Searches for Love
• Book 3 •

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Where the Wild Things Are

by Clinton Martin

Beautiful Aquarium Design, Stingrays You Can Pet and Feathered Pets Too!

Wish your buggy-ride could be pulled by a sea-horse instead of the equine variety? How about a petting zoo full of cool stingrays instead of odd smelling goats and sheep? Maybe you'd rather see amazing birds preen and strut in an aviary instead of bossy cows staring at you chomping a mouthful of partially digested grass.

If you have said, "oh yeah!" to all the above, and are wondering if you are an unusual Amish Country visitor, take heart. Every year, tens of thousands of curiosity seekers from all over the US and Canada explore more than 110,000 square feet of all things Fish and Pets at, of course, That Fish Place – THE Pet Place. If you've seen a retail pet store before, but haven't ever been to That Fish Place, you are in for a surprise.

With over 15,000 animals, food and accessories in stock, you're sure to find everything you might, or might not, be looking for. If your family pet has joined you on vacation, they are welcome here! You'll all love the incomparable fish room with over 800 aquariums, the reptile and small animal rooms, and the colorful aviary!

One of the best parts of a visit to That Fish Place – That Pet Place is reaching out and touching live sea creatures at the interactive hands-on exhibit, the Marineland Touch Tank! There really are stingrays (safe to pet) zooming around, completely at home here in Amish Country.

That Fish Place – That Pet Place even has six marine biologists who are on hand to answer your tough aquatic questions, as well as reptile and amphibian experts glad to help you with any concerns. On August 27th, from 11:00am to 2:00pm, you can meet your new best friend at That Fish Place – That Pet Place when the Keystone Greyhound Association hosts a fun meet and greet. You'll be fascinated to learn how ex-racing greyhounds come to be adopted by loving homes.

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Camping Equipment

Continued from Page 33

market wagon, with a roll-up curtain and double set of seats." When the stagecoach driver knew of passengers beforehand, their comfort on cold days was added to with the placement of hot bricks heated in the oven, and wrapped in newspaper to preserve their warmth.

As the days of the dirt road drew to a close, so too did the stagecoach era. In 1923 a Transit Company was organized and bus service initiated to and from Lancaster. While "many of the Amish residents of the area were anxious to see the line started, they did not want to invest in stock of the Company. Instead they bought books of tickets which were really prepaid bus fares." Enough money was raised to buy a Mack Auto Bus for $6,800. It held 25 passengers and even had solid rubber tires!

Today Intercourse has been recognized as a "foodie" town by the Visitor's Bureau. With the Intercourse Canning Company welcoming visitors from around the world to sample and purchase its much sought after lines of jams, jellies and canned fruits and vegetables; the Intercourse Pretzel Factory making artisan hand-rolled pretzels; and, the restaurant at the Intercourse Best Western Inn serving up home-made PA Dutch specialties throughout the day, there's plenty to satisfy one's hunger.

Some of the town's most interesting specialty shops include Country Road Flowers for beautiful arrangements; the Old Candle Barn for candles and a whole lot more; and Basket Accessories with its vast selection of Amish and other baskets.

The Old Country Store with its amazing quilts for sale, also has a notable museum on the second floor, and nearby are the Village Pottery and the Main Street Book Shop. Brand new this year is The Good Cooking Store, with all kinds of wonderful things for the kitchen.

Just to the west of town is the Mount Hope Wine Gallery, where new this year, you can now sample and purchase local micro-brews from the Swashbuckler Brewing Company. Heading east you'll find Esh's Handmade Quilts, a visitor favorite right on an Amish dairy farm, and a bit further, Country Knives, an unexpected find that truly is "one sharp store."

Over the years, this fascinating village certainly has changed, but slowly, and, it seems to us, that sometimes the things that grow the slowest are the ones that endure the longest.

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by Clinton Martin

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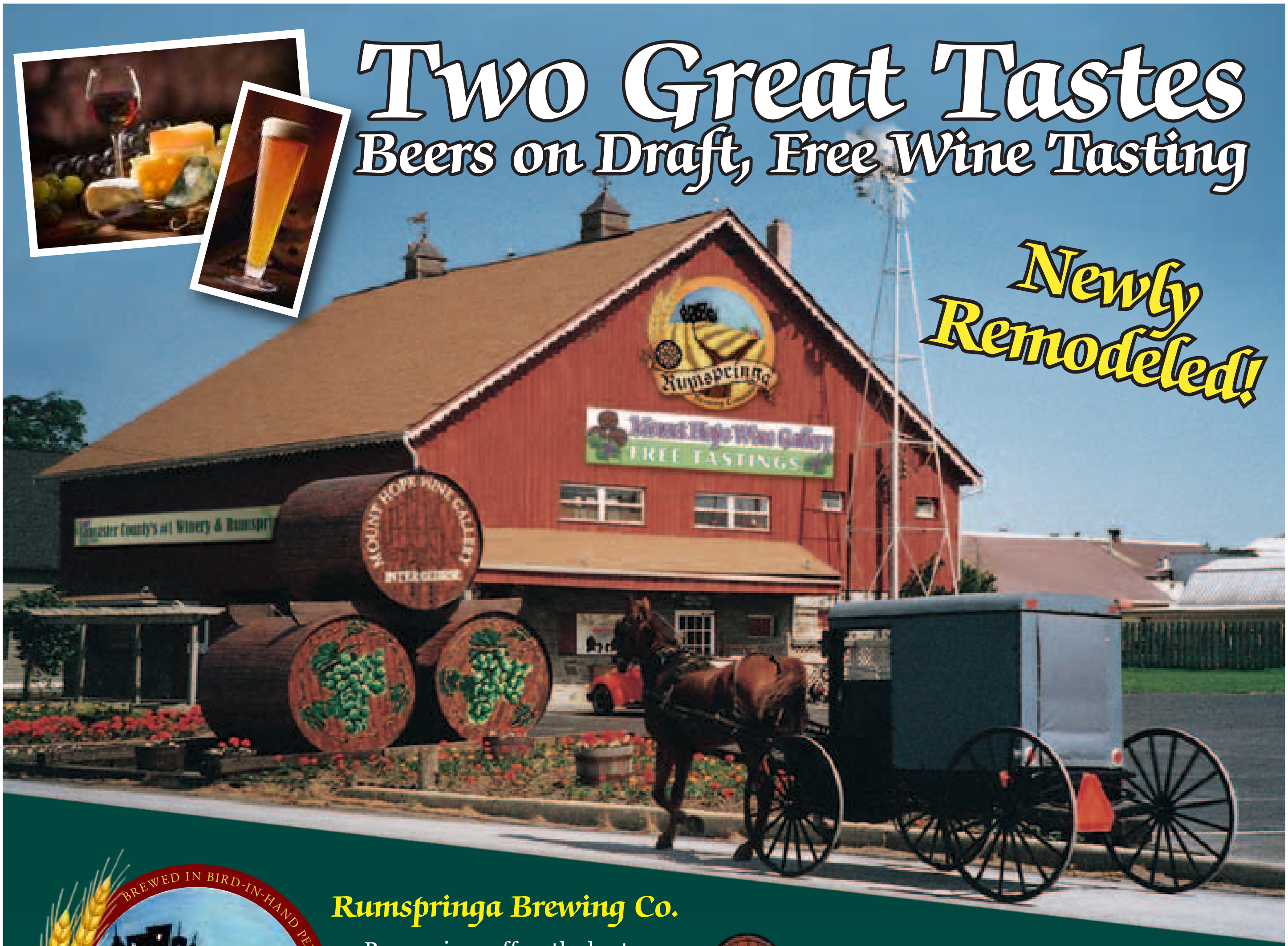
Warning! Extremely Addicting!

Baked goods are a staple among the Pennsylvania Dutch. Scarcely can you travel anywhere in Amish Country without coming upon a roadside collection of sugary, buttery treats for sale. With such a legendary legacy, you might imagine the stakes are high when claiming supremacy of the ultimare Dutch Country baked delicacy (forgive me whoppie pie worshipers)...the sticky bun.

For me the current champ is Mr. Sticky's Homemade Sticky Buns. Don't let the food truck fool you. These delicious sticky buns have long smitten the hearts and palates of locals. Luckily, it couldn't be easier to get your hands on some. Mr. Sticky's is located at the Pa Dutch Visitors Center, directly off Route 30 (Greenfield Road exit). Call 717-413-9229, but you do so at your own risk, for these sticky buns are extremely addicting!



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Intercourse, PA

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Come Cook with Our Favorite Cookbook Author

by Heidi Martin

Special to Amish Country News

For years, New York Times bestselling author, Phyllis Pellman Good, imagined having a cooking store. Her dream came true when The Good Cooking Store opened its doors just a few months ago in the village of Intercourse (PA).

"We have reliable cookware, amazing knives, and bakeware and gadgets that help you succeed with cooking. Best of all, we have knowledgeable staff who love to help you find the tools you need!" said Good.

The Good Cooking Store also offers cooking classes. Among the classes that Good and her staff recently taught are *Fun with Cupcakes*, *All About Salads*, *Savory Favorites to Share*, and *A Quick-and-Easy Taste of Italy*. More cooking classes are scheduled throughout the summer and fall.

Phyllis Pellman Good and her daughter, Rebecca Fennimore, The Good Cooking Store manager, team-teach "A Quick-and-Easy Taste of Italy."

Classes take place in the intimate Cooking School on the second floor of The Good Cooking Store (above). The kitchen is designed with a U-shaped counter-top which allows everyone to have a front-row seat and to help with food preparation.

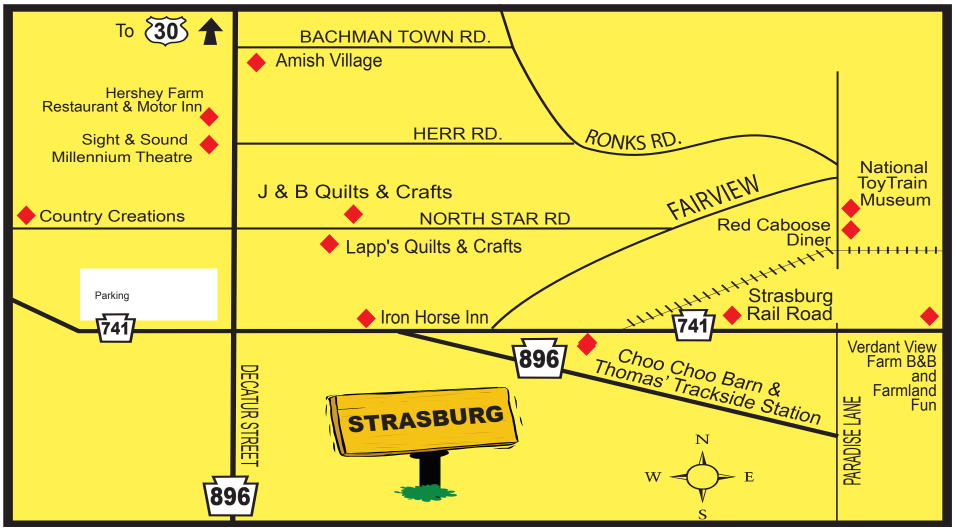
In a recent class, attendees tried out tools (right), while Good demonstrated how to prepare each dish. During the class, the group ate a 3-course meal of Creamy Lettuce Salad, Parmesan-Garlic Quick Bread, Convenient Slow Cooker Lasagna, and Grandma Herr's Easy Butter Crunch. The featured recipes came from Good's cookbooks which have sold over 10 million copies and have appeared on The New York Times bestseller lists.

Cooking classes vary in theme, level of difficulty, and time of day. Come to learn, to be inspired, to have fun, and to enjoy delicious surprises. Bring your friends or neighbors, your spouse, or out-of-town guests. You'll discover a warm, intimate atmosphere where questions are welcome. You'll also learn great tips for making the food you love. And you'll enjoy eating what you've helped to make.

For details about the upcoming cooking classes, visit www.GoodCookingStore.com or call 877/525-7745. The Good Cooking Store is located at 3474 Old Philadelphia Pike, Intercourse.

Heidi R. Martin lives in Lancaster, PA. When she's not writing, she can be found baking sugar cookies or taking long bike rides on the scenic roads of Lancaster County.

Strasburg - A Town of Trains & Heritage


To 30
BACHMAN TOWN RD.
Amish Village
Hershey Farm Restaurant & Motor Inn
Sight & Sound Millennium Theatre
HERR RD.
RONKS RD.
J & B Quilts & Crafts
Country Creations
NORTH STAR RD
FAIRVIEW
National ToyTrain Museum
Red Caboose Diner
Lapp's Quilts & Crafts
Parking
741
Iron Horse Inn
Strasburg Rail Road
741
896
Choo Choo Barn & Thomas' Trackside Station
Verdant View Farm B&B and Farmland Fun
DECATUR STREET
STRASBURG
PARADISE LANE
N
W
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S
896

Everyone waits for the Strasburg Railroad.

All aboard! Strasburg is a major destination all its own in PA Dutch Country, and home to many well known attractions. To name just a few --- the Strasburg Rail Road, Sight & Sound Theatres, Ghost Tours of Lancaster, Cherry Crest Adventure Farm, National Toy Train Museum, and the Choo Choo Barn. But you may not know much about the interesting history of this town...

Strasburg, named for the city in France, was actually "founded" by a Frenchman, Pierre Bezaillion, who traded with the Delaware Indians. The story goes he came to the area in 1693, as French fur traders opened up the first path through this area from Philadelphia to the Susquehanna River.

As early as 1716, when the first wagon was used for hauling goods, the path became known as the Conestoga Road, and the wagons that traveled them eventually became known as Conestoga Wagons. Main Street Strasburg was developed during the next half century as traffic on this road increased considerably and the first log houses appeared in the village about 1733.

Strasburg continued to flourish in the 18th century primarily because of its location along the major wagon routes between Philadelphia, Lancaster, and the Susquehanna River. It was one of the principal stopping stations and, with the heavy wagon traffic, there were as many as eight or ten taverns here. Most of the older houses along Main Street were at one point

Continued on Page 43

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The Amish Village®

GPS Address:
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Ronks, PA 17572

Route 896, Strasburg, PA 17579
717-687-8511 • www.TheAmishVillage.net

J & B Quilts: Finely Crafted Handmade Quilts

by Clinton Martin

Hundreds of farmsteads all over Amish Country sell the finely stitched and sewn art pieces with designs ranging from the traditional to very contemporary. Choosing the right quilt starts with choosing the right quilt shop. Thankfully, I can point you to J&B Quilts and Crafts at 157 N. Star Rd. in Ronks (only a mile or so north of Strasburg) where you are welcome to visit any day except Sunday from 8am to 6pm.

The shop has countless quilts, but if for some reason you don't see one you like, but have a vision after exploring the many designs, no worries. They will be glad to talk you through your ideas and take them to needle and thread in a custom-design that is 100% your own. Far more than just quilts, you'll find other handmade crafts, like "quillows". Love throws, but don't like having them hanging over the furniture? Are you wanting a quilted throw, but not sure what to do with it when it isn't being used? The solution is a quillow - part quilt, part pillow, in many varied and colorful shades and styles. It folds out from within a pillow sham when needed, and folds easily back inside the sham when not. A very useful gift idea. Happy hunting!

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The County's Best Kept Secret for Home Decor and Gifts

by Clinton Martin

Some gift stores hawk trinkets and other touristy stuff (not my favorite), while others display locally inspired merchandise. I'll give you two guesses as to what type of store Country Creations is.

If you've already been, you know that Country Creations is a welcome addition to any shopper's itinerary. From the moment you walk in, your eyes take you to fresh, seasonal looks in artful display. Somehow shopping for home décor is easy when the merchandise is displayed in inspiring fashion, which is exactly what you find here. The store itself is a converted barn, with an earthy and rustic feel that makes you feel very much at home.

Beginning September 22, Country Creations will be celebrating its annual Harvest Days, which means shoppers will find huge savings on fall items, garlands, lighting & shades, bath accessories, pottery, framed art, mirrors & prints, bedding, candles, potpourri, boutique items, furniture, and the list goes on! Be sure to check out the garden items too! For more information, call 717-687-8743, or visit countrycreationspa.com.

Country Creations is hooked on rugs.

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Experience mouth watering PA Dutch favorites along side modern flavors on our Grand Smorgasbord.

- Freshly sliced Turkey • Baked Ham • Rotisserie Chicken*
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- Amish Stuffing • Rice Pilaf • Stewed Tomatoes
- Fresh Vegetables • And More!

Be sure to leave room for some of the area's best desserts on Hershey Farm's Deluxe Dessert Bar, including:

- Homemade Shoofly Pie
- Hand Rolled PA Dutch Soft Pretzels
- Make Your Own Waffles
- Deluxe Chocolate Dipping Fountain*
- Soft Serve Ice Cream • Specialty Parfaits
- Hershey Farm's Famous Chocolate Cake
- Whoopie Pies • Seasonal Pies • Cakes
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*Evenings and weekends only

MENU SELECTIONS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE

Lancaster's Favorite Whoopie pie Voted #1

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Wall Hangings • Pillows • Aprons • Dolls
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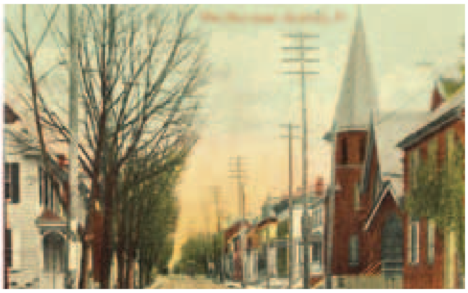
Continued from Page 39

private schools and academies and with many of the structures still intact, the Strasburg Borough Council, in order to maintain the charm and historical significance of the Village, enacted an ordinance in 1970 that created a Historic District approximately two miles long and containing 193 buildings.



Main St. Strasburg circa 1900

As Strasburg flourished, so did its neighbor to the east, Philadelphia. The commercial interests of Philadelphia pressured the State Legislature to improve the transportation network into their city. As a result, a series of canals along with the Philadelphia and Columbia Rail Roads were constructed. Strasburg residents became alarmed at the possibility of losing their commercial position and there soon emerged a charter for the Strasburg Rail Road to construct a rail line connecting Strasburg with the Philadelphia and Columbia Rail Road main line near Paradise. Finally in the 1850's, trains were hauling freight and passengers.

About 100 years later, business had dwindled, and a severe storm in 1957 destroyed much of the track. It seemed the Rail Road had reached the end of the line. To the rescue came a group of local train enthusiasts who began bringing the Rail Road back to life in a totally new way. Having discovered they could actually make money transporting people rather losing it hauling freight, they added passenger cars and buildings, and today's Strasburg Rail Road was born, destined to become one of Dutch Country's top attractions.

Appropriately enough, the State decided to build an expanded Rail Road Museum of Pennsylvania across the street, the ideal place to preserve the history of railroading in Pennsylvania. With the other train attractions nearby, it's little wonder that Strasburg has earned the title of Train Town, USA!

Turn-of-the century life in Strasburg.

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www.nttmuseum.org

Extreme Fashions for Ladies, Gentlemen, Cowboys, Bikers, and Scoundrels

by Clinton Martin

Only four miles east of the outlets on Route 30, you'll find yourself about as far away from the same-old, same-old as you can possibly get, and about as close to "a look to die for" as possible this side of eternity. Killer Hats is the source of great apparel, definitely not limited to only headwear. 33,000 square feet of awesome extreme fashions provide an amazing selection of leather, and a whole lot more. Belts, purses, satchels, and other accessories are all there for the picking.

If you ride a motorcycle this store is perfect for you, but even if you sport a "I'd rather be riding my horse" bumper sticker on your car, this still is a shopping dream for you. Cowboy hats are only the beginning with coats, pants, boots, and even a whip or two like you've seen in the movies gracing the shelves of this singularly unique store.

Cool leather jackets for the ladies, cool hats for the guys.

I could go on and on about the fashionable ways to dress outside the box with a visit to Killer Hats, but suffice it to say that if you consider yourself an independent thinker when it comes to style, you need to check out Killer Hats. Find out more by calling 866-443-7279, or at killerhats.com.

Hershey Farm – An Ideal Dutch Country Destination

Special to Amish Country News

The word destination is defined by the standard Merriam-Webster Dictionary as "a place worthy of travel or an extended visit". Located next to Sight & Sound Theatre® in Strasburg, Hershey Farm is a true Lancaster County destination as home to a PA Dutch restaurant, on-site bakery, gift shop, specialty boutiques, country store, outdoor market, Inn and over 23 acres of peaceful Amish Country views.

The Restaurant at Hershey Farm offers menu dining as well as a PA Dutch smorgasbord. The smorgasbord features traditional favorites and modern flavors, a grill station where items are prepared to order, hand carved meats, a homemade soup, salad and gourmet bread bar, hand rolled PA Dutch soft pretzels, create your own waffles, a deluxe chocolate fountain, arguably the area's #1 whoopie pie, freshly baked cakes and cookies, and much more. The Restaurant also offers family-style dining for groups and hosts regular cooking classes and demonstrations on local PA Dutch cuisine.

The Bakery at Hershey Farm gets an early start each day supplying both the Restaurant and the retail Bakery with original recipe treats. Cookies, sweetbreads, sticky buns, cakes and pies are all regular staples. As expert bakers of Amish Country whoopie pie, the Bakery features a new whoopie pie each month, available at the Bakery and online. August's whoopie pie flavor is Strawberry Crème – fresh strawberry cake filled with luscious sweet cream cheese.

The Gift Shop, Boutiques, Country Store, and Outdoor Market are over 4,500 square feet of fantastic shopping. The latest fashions including jewelry, shoes and other accessories can be found at the Farm Boutique. Inside the Gift Shop are aromatic candles, inspirational works of art, games and much more. The Country Store is jam-packed with bulk candy, pastas, and cooking accessories. Outside is the Outdoor Market where you'll discover seasonal plants, fruits, vegetables and garden accessories.

Visiting Hershey Farm is easy, less than two miles south of Rockvale Outlets on Route 896, and directly beside Sight & Sound Theatre®, Hershey Farm is tucked away from crowds and noise but still close to the action. On the 23 beautiful acres surrounding the Inn at Hershey Farm guests can unwind on walking trails, enjoy the child play areas, and try their hand with a pole at the fishing pond. The Inn also features an outdoor pool and a (seasonal) complimentary full breakfast smorgasbord.

In all ways at Hershey Farm, the special care and attention to detail at the restaurant, bakery, shops, and Inn are obvious. With so much to see and do without starting up your car, Hershey Farm remains the ideal Dutch Country destination.

Visit hersheyfarm.com or facebook.com/hersheyfarm to learn more.

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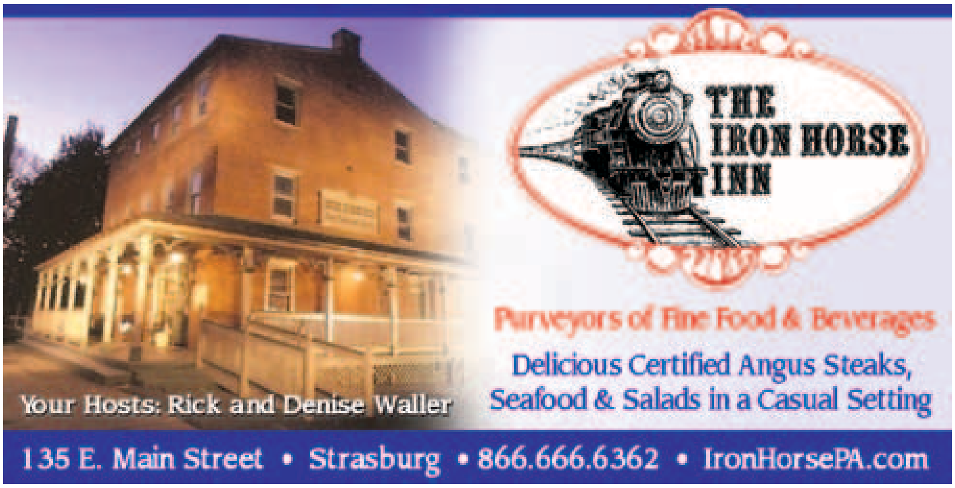
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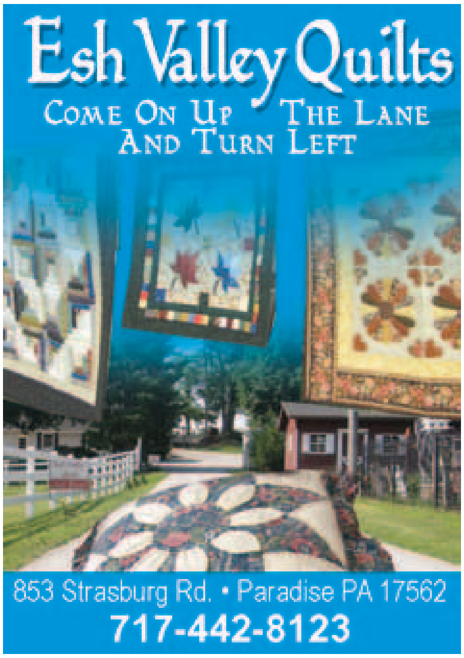
Esh Valley Quilts

Come On Up The Lane
And Turn Left

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Welcome to New Holland • Blue Ball

The instability in Europe in the late 1600's spawned and nurtured the pioneer interest in the deep forest lands of Pennsylvania — 60 miles inland from Philadelphia. In 1681 William Penn received his 40,000 square-mile land grant to settle King Charles' debt to his father. Himself a Quaker, Penn had experienced religious persecution firsthand, and decided to establish his American colony based on complete religious freedom.

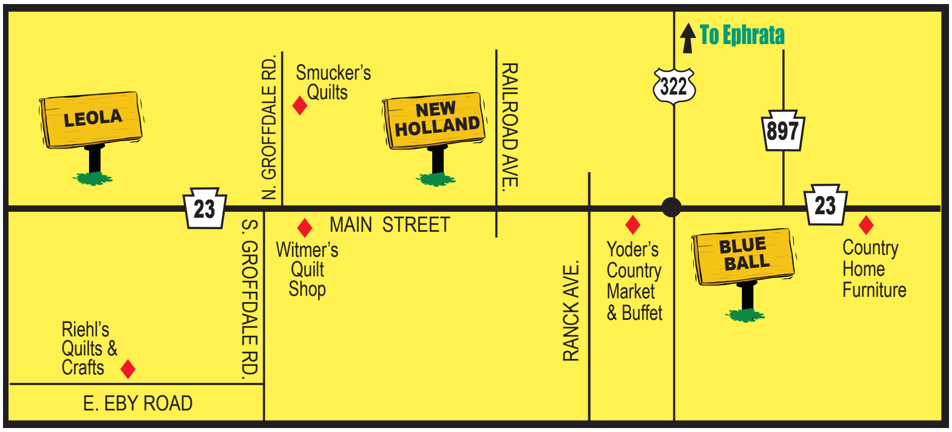
This entire century had been one of continued misery for the peasants of the Palatinate (western Germany). The Thirty Years War had raged across the area with barbaric ruthlessness. The peasant inhabitants fled to nearby Holland for refuge. And within a decade of the end of that conflict, King Louis XIV of France started a new religious war in the same general area. These Palatinate peasants were exhausted by war's desolation, and were ripe for a new start. Traveling land agents for William Penn's new colony found willing ears. In addition to religious freedom and a peaceful existence, Penn offered cheap land. The stated price was 100 English pounds for 5,000 acres. (At today's rate exchange, this would be less than $.04 an acre). By the year 1702, a goodly number of Palatinates had immigrated to Pennsylvania, and Queen Anne, newly reigning in England, was delighted that Penn was colonizing his immense grant without drawing off the population of Britain.

The area today called New Holland was practically covered by virgin forests—sturdy timbers of oak, ash, chestnut, and walnut. By 1728, William Penn had been dead for 10 years and his American colony, called Pennsylvania, was being administered by a proprietary governor while the sale of land was formalized by patent deeds.

In 1802, when a post office was established and an official name was necessary, there was no dissension to naming the town New Holland.

These grateful people remembered how extremely kind the inhabitants of Holland were to them, with assistance thought to have included funds to cover the cost of the refugee German immigrants' ocean voyage.

This was no small matter when the alternative was indentured service for a period of years. For adults, indenture frequently meant four to seven years of labor without pay. Minors served until their 21st birthday. But still, William Penn's Quaker Pennsylvania was a liberation compared to the Europe they fled seeking freedom of religion, assembly and speech to all, hopefully, none of which we take for granted today.



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Monday– Saturday: 6 –10:30 AM
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Monday—Friday: 11 AM—3 PM
DINNER BUFFET
Monday –Friday: 4 –8 PM
Saturday: 11 AM—8 PM
SUNDAY BRUNCH
10 AM-2PM

www.yoderscountrymarket.com

HOURS: Monday through Saturday: 6 AM—8 PM ~ Sunday Brunch: 10 AM—2 PM

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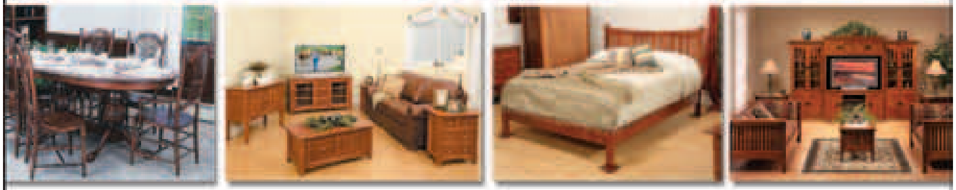

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Excellent Pickin' in Amish Country

by Clinton Martin

Follow me to Renninger's Antiques Market, one of the original antique purveyors along Route 272 in Adamstown, Antiques Capital USA. But come early, while the pickin is best! Every Sunday before the birds spread their wings, activity is already starting in the outdoor market as the still of the dawn is broken by the increasing shuffle of feet and conversation. Dealer after dealer arrive and begin to set up. Flashlights flicker like fireflies and the day's business soon begins. You almost sense a quiet frenzy of panic as buyers move about trying to take it all in. Suddenly you realize the indoor market is about to open with lots more to browse amongst. You enter, confident that you have found the mother lode of Antiques and Collectibles.

Stand-hopping at Renninger's Antique Market, the Grand Dame of Antiquing

In the unlikely event you don't find what you're looking for, the knowledgeable dealers can acquire most anything in the world of Antiques & Collectibles. Every Sunday, you will find 375 dealers indoors and up to 300 outdoors (weather permitting). The Indoor Market is open 7:30 AM to 4 PM. The Outdoor Market opens at 5 AM. Renninger's is located between Reading and Lancaster on Rt. 272 in Adamstown, just 1/2 mile off PA turnpike exit #286. Further details at renningers.com.

Your Verdant View Farm Adventure

by Clinton Martin

When you are a farmer, there is always just a little more to do than time to do it in. Of course, you are probably feeling the same way with your vacation in Amish Country. Well, if there is one place that you absolutely must make time for, in my humble opinion, it would be Verdant View Farm.

At Verdant View, you become The Farmer's Apprentice. Whether you help collect eggs in the hen-house, or milk the cows (imagine the photo opportunities) experiencing life on the family farm is a guaranteed memory maker!

Of course, there is much more to the story. At Verdant View you can enjoy hands-on activities like Popping Corn (right off the cob!), making your very own cheese from the Verdant View milk, and baking something amazing in the kitchen from Verdant View's very own family cookbook.

You might be wondering, what makes this farm so hospitable? Well, Verdant View is also a working bed and breakfast, and the spirit of caring for guests runs deep throughout the entire family. Make your reservation for an unforgettable farm encounter by calling 717-687-7353. You'll find additional information at farmlandfun.com.

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"Amish Farm Tour" Adults $17 Child $11
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20% OFF our Cookie Run Ride!

Lancaster Dining Guide

American

Red Caboose Diner	BLD, $, MCC
Eden Resort	B,L,D $$ MCC
Fulton Steamboat Inn	L,D $ to $$ MCC
Iron Horse Inn	L,D $$ MCC
Loxley's Restaurant	B,L,D - $$$ - MCC
Revere Tavern	L,D $$$ MCC
Sugarplums & Tea	B,L - $ - V,M,D

Sweets and Treats

Mr. Sticky's Homemade Stickies	B,L,D - $ - MCC

Pennsylvania Dutch / Local Traditional

Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant	B,L,D $ to $$ MV
Family Cupboard	B,L,D $ to $$ MVA
Good N' Plenty	L,D $$ MV
Hershey Farm	B,L,D $$ MCC
Intercourse Village Restaurant	B, L, D, $
Jakey's Amish Barbeque	L,D $ to SS MCC
Plain & Fancy Farm	L,D $$ MCC
Yoder's Restaurant	B,L,D $$ MCC

Smorgasbord / Buffet

Miller's Smorgasbord	B,L,D,SB,R $$ to $$$ MCC

Wineries / Breweries

Lancaster Brewing Company	LD, $$, MCC
Mount Hope Estate & Winery	
Union Barrel Works	L,D $$ MCC

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Lancaster
BREWING COMPANY

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3029 Old Philadelphia Pike
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The Dining Key

The following abbreviations and symbols indicate meals served, average entrée cost, and credit cards accepted…

Meals

B	Breakfast
L	Lunch
D	Dinner
SB	Sunday Brunch
LN	Late Night
R	Reservations suggested

Dinner Entrees

$	Under $10
$$	$11-$20
$$$	$21-30
$$$$$	over $30

Credit Cards

A	American Express
D	Discover
M	MasterCard
V	VISA
MCC	Major Credit Cards

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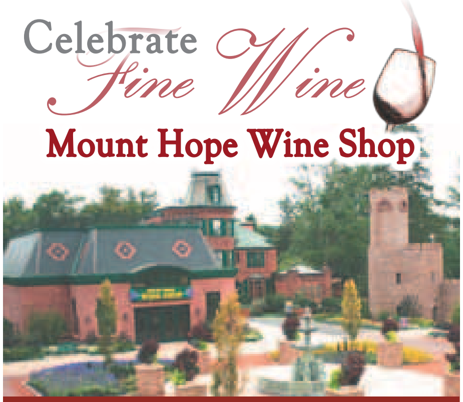

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Stop By Our Bakery & Gift Shop

Be sure to visit our famous bake shop, where you can purchase some of the best goodies found in the area, including shoo fly pies and sticky buns – all baked fresh daily. Don't forget to check out our unique gift shops. We cater to so much more than PA Dutch mementos. Shop for family and friends or just pamper yourself with a well-deserved gift.

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FEBRUARY			★	★
MARCH			★	★
APRIL	★		★	★
MAY	★		★	★
JUNE	★		★	★
JULY	★	★	★	★
AUGUST	★	★	★	★
SEPTEMBER	★	★	★	★
OCTOBER	★	★	★	★
NOVEMBER	★		★	★
DECEMBER			★	★

MARKET OPEN ON DAYS MARKED

Route 340, Bird In Hand, PA • (717) 393-9674

Special to Amish Country News

Farm Fresh Difference at the Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant

Bird-in-Hand
Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant & Smorgasbord

Across seasons and time, generations have been nourished and enriched by the bounty of Lancaster County's fertile soil. To this day, fresh-from-the-farm goodness is the legacy of the Smucker Family of the Bird-in-Hand Family Restaurant & Bakery.

The original Smucker homestead—in the family for 100 years—still sits across from their Family Inn & Restaurant. On this farm and in its PA Dutch kitchen the great-grandparents of today's owners, John and Jim Smucker, began a wonderful tradition. Grandma Smucker perfected her recipes for chicken corn soup, pork and sauerkraut, chicken pot pie, apple dumplings, whoopie pies, shoofly pies and more. Grandfather Smucker farmed the fields and sold Lancaster County meats and cheeses at local farmers markets. It was in Grandma Smucker's kitchen that National Geographic Magazine found and featured her in 1938 in a photo with her five sons.

In the late '60s Grandma Smucker, now a widow, her son Paul and other family members opened the Bird-in-Hand Family Inn & Restaurant in the meadow along the scenic byway of the Old Philadelphia Pike (Route 340). In 1984 the family expanded their food horizons opening the Bird-in-Hand Bakery with goodies too numerous to mention.

Today the third generation of Smuckers treats over half a million guests each year to an ever-changing selection of awesome tasting, healthier, locally grown food. Holding firmly to recipes that Grandma Smucker and their mother perfected, the family continues farming, raising Angus steers, corn and pumpkins. Together they help sustain the neighboring Amish and Mennonite family farmers, preserving open farmland and investing in their community's future. It's a natural extension of how they've always done things. The proof is in the hospitality and, of course, the tasting!

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HUB & SPOKE
Hershey
Kutztown
Denver/Adamstown
Easton
LANCASTER COUNTY
EASY DRIVES FROM LANCASTER COUNTY

Bird-in-Hand to Hershey: 30 Miles
Driving Time: 40 Minutes

For most people, the name Hershey means chocolate. The factory and town, founded by candy entrepreneur Milton S. Hershey, is now a destination all its own, and HersheyPark has become one of the top theme parks in the world.

Mr. Hershey used his millions to create a world-famous school for orphan children that to this day remains one of the great examples of American philanthropy.

When visiting Hershey, your starting point should be HERSHEY'S CHOCOLATE WORLD. Did you know that Hershey kisses were first introduced in 1907, and that the Hershey plant can produce 24 million kisses in one day? Enjoy the fun on the exciting and educational chocolate-making tour ride and get a free sample after your trip. Remember, admission to the Chocolate World ride is FREE!

Also popular is "Hershey's Really Big 3-D Show," a fun-filled special effects show that is a comical and exciting three-part musical story kids will enjoy. And kids will love the new interactive "Hershey's Factory Works Experience," offering the family a chance to experience what working in a chocolate factory is like! So, even if you've visited Hershey before, it's time to once again follow the smell of chocolate to the "Sweetest Place on Earth."

HERSHEY'S Create Your Own Candy Bar Attraction
HERSHEY'S Dessert Creation Studio
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HERSHEY'S
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717-534-4900
www.HersheysChocolateWorld.com
Open year-round (closed 12/25).
For events and operating hours, please call or visit our website.

Intercourse to Adamstown: 21 Miles
Driving Time: 20 Minutes

Just a bit north of Ephrata (and south of Reading) is an area known as ANTIQUES CAPTIAL, U.S.A. The Denver / Adamstown area is bursting with antique shops. Many are even open on Sundays, making this a great destination for those trolling for bargains over the weekend. A favorite spot is SHUPP'S GROVE. This beautiful outdoor antique market is open weekends through October, and every weekend has its own theme. Their slogan is "the romance of the woods, the thrill of the hunt, and the euphoria of the 'big find." RENNINGER'S ANTIQUE & FARMERS MARKETS are legendary, and open every Sunday. With 375 dealers indoors and up to 300 outdoors (weather permitting), you'll find just about everything you're looking for, plus a lot you didn't even know about! All in all the Adamstown area makes for a perfect Sunday activity.

Lancaster to Easton: 87 miles
Driving time: 1 hour, 45 minutes

On your way to or from Lancaster, or as a special trip for the kids, don't miss the CRAYOLA FACTORY in Easton. It's a hands-on discovery center where you can learn how Crayola Crayons and Markers are made. It's a colorful, fun visitor center that allows children of all ages to unleash their creative spirit. Exhibit areas range from manufacturing to "Crayola After Dark" and the "Crayola Meltdown."

Lancaster to Kutztown: 50 Miles
Driving Time: 1 Hour

CRYSTAL CAVE, in Kutztown, was discovered in 1871. It is Pennsylvania's oldest operating underground cavern open to tourists. Crystal Cave was named for the dazzling display of shining calcium crystals formed slowly by nature through the ages. It is a great destination for the whole family, where you can pan for gemstones too!

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rates
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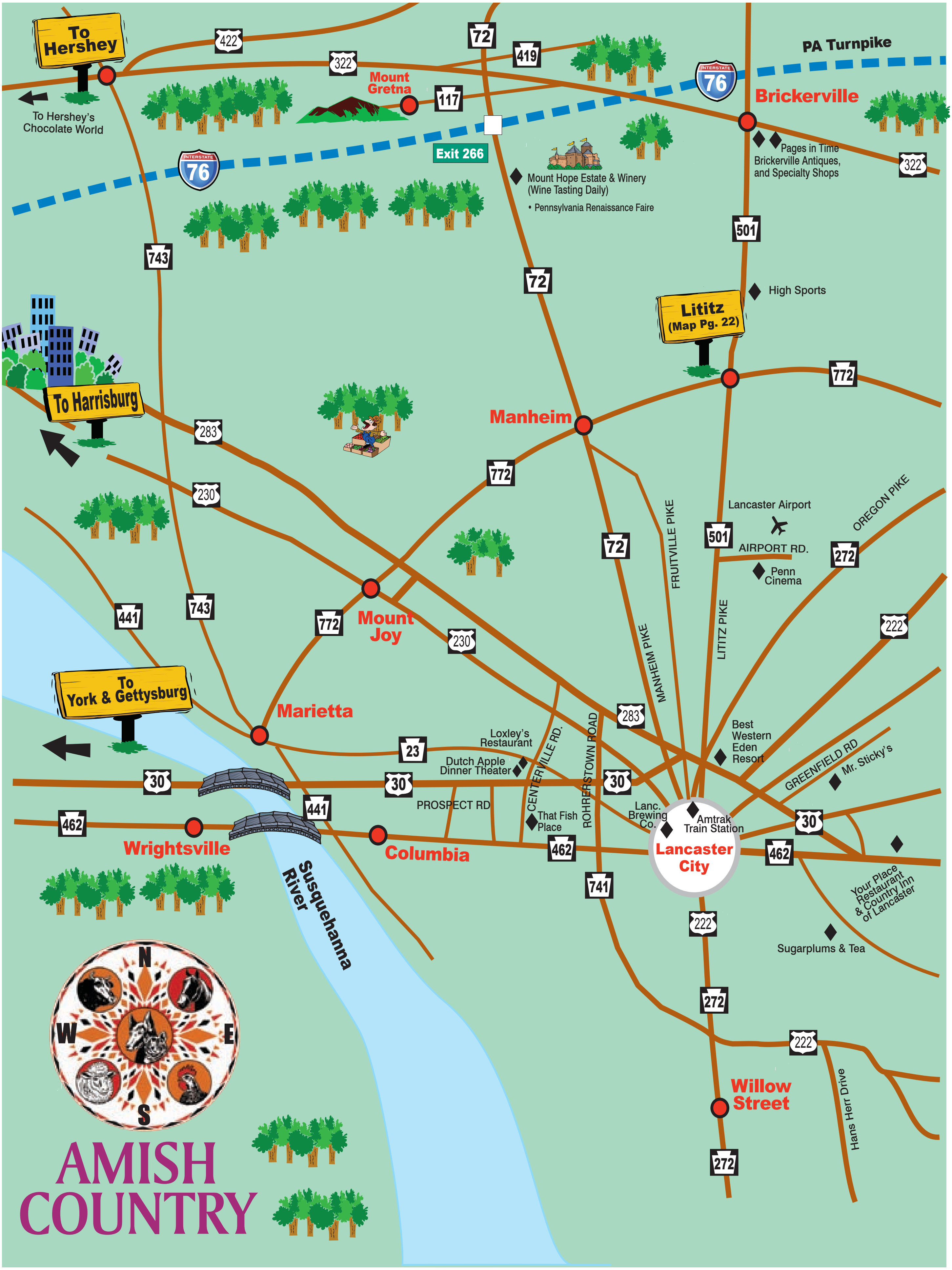
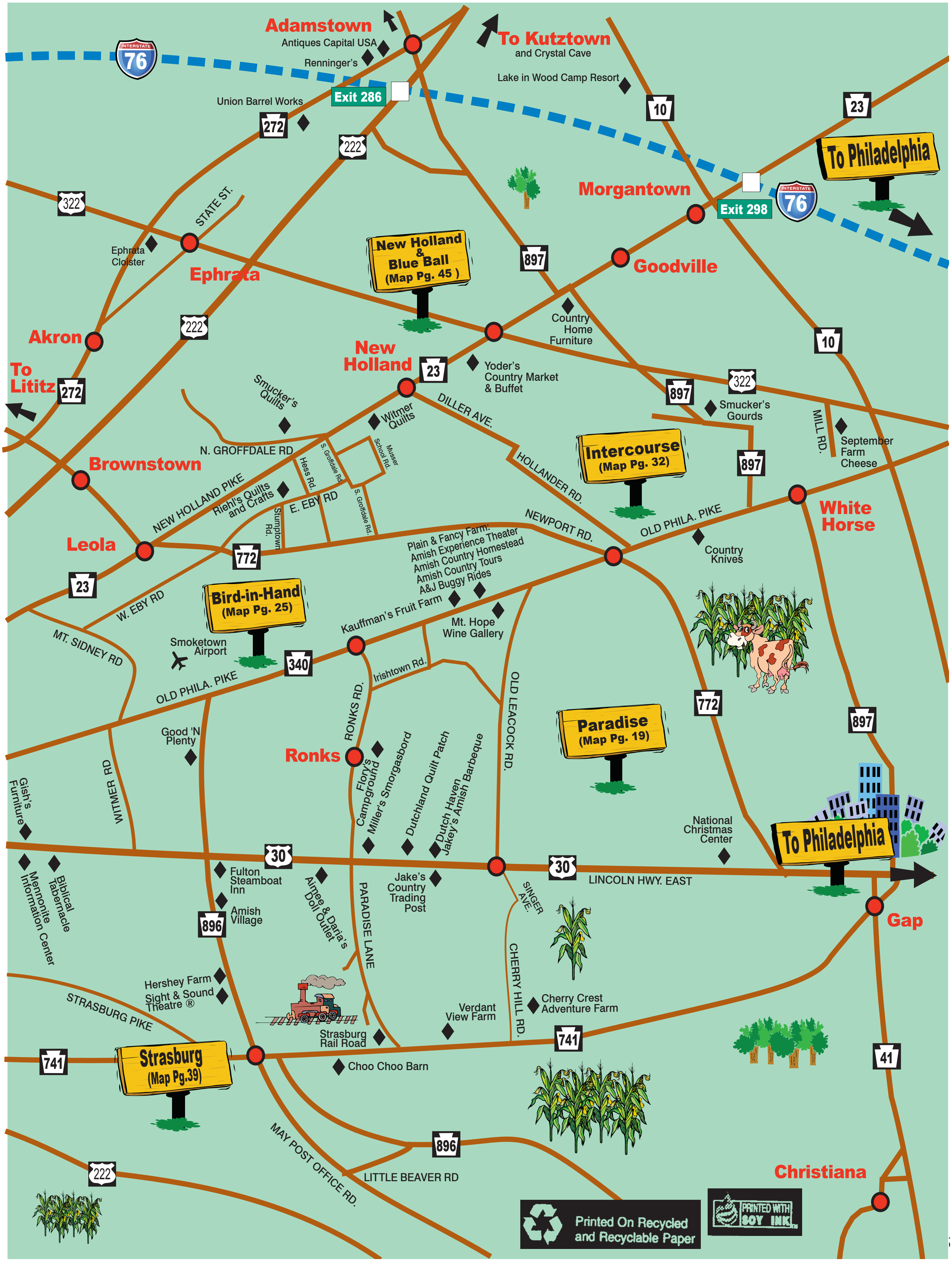
Regional Map


To Hershey
To Hershey's Chocolate World
422
322
72
419
PA Turnpike
76
Brickerville
Mount Gretna
117
Exit 266
76
Pages in Time
Brickerville Antiques, and Specialty Shops
322
Mount Hope Estate & Winery (Wine Tasting Daily)
• Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire
743
72
501
High Sports
Lititz (Map Pg. 22)
772
To Harrisburg
283
Manheim
772
230
Lancaster Airport
OREGON PIKE
501
AIRPORT RD.
72
FRUITVILLE PIKE
272
Penn Cinema
441
743
772
Mount Joy
230
LITITZ PIKE
MANHEIM PIKE
222
To York & Gettysburg
Marietta
283
Best Western Eden Resort
Loxley's Restaurant
CENTERVILLE RD.
ROHRERSTOWN ROAD
23
Dutch Apple Dinner Theater
GREENFIELD RD
Mr. Sticky's
30
30
30
PROSPECT RD
Lanc. Brewing Co.
Amtrak Train Station
30
441
462
That Fish Place
462
Lancaster City
462
Wrightsville
Columbia
741
Your Place Restaurant & Country Inn of Lancaster
Susquehanna River
222
Sugarplums & Tea
272
222
Willow Street
Hans Herr Drive
272
N
W
E
S
AMISH COUNTRY

Regional Map



Adamstown
Antiques Capital USA
Renninger's
To Kutztown
and Crystal Cave
Lake in Wood Camp Resort
INTERSTATE 76
Exit 286
Union Barrel Works
272
222
10
23
To Philadelphia
Morgantown
Exit 298
INTERSTATE 76
322
STATE ST.
Ephrata Cloister
Ephrata
New Holland & Blue Ball (Map Pg. 45)
897
Goodville
Country Home Furniture
222
Akron
To Lititz
272
New Holland
23
Yoder's Country Market & Buffet
Smucker's Quilts
10
322
897
Smucker's Gourds
MILL RD.
September Farm Cheese
DILLER AVE.
Witmer Quilts
N. GROFFDALE RD
S. Groffdale Rd
Musser School Rd.
Hess Rd.
HOLLANDER RD.
Intercourse (Map Pg. 32)
897
Brownstown
NEW HOLLAND PIKE
Riehl's Quilts and Crafts
E. EBY RD
Stumptown Rd.
S. Groffdale Rd.
NEWPORT RD.
OLD PHILA. PIKE
White Horse
Country Knives
Leola
772
Plain & Fancy Farm:
Amish Experience Theater
Amish Country Homestead
Amish Country Tours
A&J Buggy Rides
23
W. EBY RD
Bird-in-Hand (Map Pg. 25)
Kauffman's Fruit Farm
Mt. Hope Wine Gallery
MT. SIDNEY RD
Smoketown Airport
340
Irishtown Rd.
OLD PHILA. PIKE
RONKS RD.
OLD LEACOCK RD.
772
897
Paradise (Map Pg. 19)
Good 'N Plenty
Ronks
Flory's Campground
Miller's Smorgasbord
Dutchland Quilt Patch
Dutch Haven
Jakey's Amish Barbeque
WITMER RD
Gish's Furniture
National Christmas Center
To Philadelphia
30
30
LINCOLN HWY. EAST
Biblical Tabernacle
Mennonite Information Center
Fulton Steamboat Inn
Amish Village
896
Aimee & Daria's Doll Outlet
PARADISE LANE
Jake's Country Trading Post
SINGER AVE.
CHERRY HILL RD.
Gap
Hershey Farm
Sight & Sound Theatre ®
STRASBURG PIKE
Verdant View Farm
Cherry Crest Adventure Farm
741
Strasburg Rail Road
741
Strasburg (Map Pg.39)
Choo Choo Barn
41
MAY POST OFFICE RD.
896
LITTLE BEAVER RD
222
Christiana

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by Brad Igou

When the lights dim inside the Amish Experience Theater and the telling of "Jacob's Choice" begins, you'd think you were in a theme park in Orlando or Hollywood. Surrounded by five screens and the latest in quadraphonic sound, seated in benches modeled after those of an Amish church service (with backs added for creature comfort), you watch unfold the story of an Amish teenager undecided whether to join the Amish church.

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For me, there's no better introduction to the Amish as people than "Jacob's Choice" at the Amish Experience Theater at Plain and Fancy Farm, Route 340 between Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse. Shows are on the hour, seven days a week. Call 717.768.8400 for details.

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Attractions

AARON & JESSICA'S BUGGY RIDES ● (SUN)...47
Plain & Fancy Farm, Rt. 340, between Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse. 717-768-8828. Operated by Amish. Stop at a real Amish farm. All in the country - 40 mile view. Open daily. amishbuggyrides.com

AMISH COUNTRY HOMESTEAD ● (SUN)............. 28
Rt. 340 at Plain & Fancy Farm. 717-768-8400. Only Amish house tour designated Lancaster County "Heritage Site." Guided tours through nine rooms at quarter to the hour daily. See the new Fisher Amish schoolroom! amishexperience.com

AMISH COUNTRY TOURS ● (SUN)........ 24, 28, 60
Route 340, at Plain & Fancy Farm. 717-768-8400. Enjoy 90-Minute back road guided Amish farmland tours at 10am, 12:30pm & 2:30pm (Mon.-Sat.) and 11am & 1:30pm only Sunday. amishexperience.com

AMISH EXPERIENCE F/X THEATER ● (SUN)....... 28
Rt. 340 at Plain & Fancy Farm. 717-768-8400. Emotional, unforgettable story of the Amish, told with special effects and unique imagery. Open daily, shows on the hour. amishexperience.com

AMISH VILLAGE ● (SUN)................................ 39
199 Hartman Bridge Road, Ronks, PA 17572. 717-687-8511. On Rt. 896 between Rt. 30 and Strasburg, the 10-acre village includes the 1840 Amish farmhouse, one-room school, smokehouse, crafts shop, and animals. theamishvillage.net

BIBLICAL TABERNACLE 8
2209 Millstream Rd., Lancaster PA 17602, 717-299-0954. Full-scale reproduction of Moses' Tabernacle, seen only by guided 45 minute lecture tour. mennoniteinfoctr.com

CHERRY CREST ADVENTURE FARM 8
150 Cherry Hill Rd., Ronks PA, 17572. 717-687-6843 or 866-546-1799. Join over a million adventurers. 50 farm-fun activities for everyone! May – October. CherryCrestAdventureFarm.com.

CHOO CHOO BARN, INC (SUN)......................... 40
Route 741 East, Strasburg, PA 17579, 717-687-7911. Gigantic model train layout. 150 hand-created moving details and 22 operating model trains. choochoobarn.com

CRAYOLA FACTORY.. 54
30 Centre Square, Easton PA, 18042. 610-515-8000. A world of discovery with more than a dozen hands-on activities and special themes and projects throughout the year. crayolafactory.com.

CRYSTAL CAVE (SUN)...................................... 51
963 Crystal Cave Rd., Kutztown PA, 19530. 610-683-6765. Explore our underground world, plus pan for gemstones, hike the nature trail, see the museum, shop in the gift shop. crystalcavepa.com

DUTCH APPLE DINNER THEATRE (SUN)........... 12
510 Centerville Rd., Lancaster, PA 17601. 717-898-1900. Broadway-style musicals with live orchestra and a delectable buffet. Child and group rates available. dutchapple.com

EPHRATA CLOISTER ● (SUN)............................ 6
632 West Main Street, Ephrata, PA 17522. 717-733-6600. One of America's earliest religious communities. National Historic Landmark. Tours daily, open 7 days. ephratacloister.org

GHOST TOURS OF LANCASTER (SUN) 39
Tours depart from Main & Decatur Streets, Strasburg, PA 17579. 717-687-6687. Discover the other side of Lancaster's history on this candlelight walking tour. Also downtown Lancaster ghost tours. For all ages. ghosttour.com

HERSHEY'S CHOCOLATE WORLD (SUN) 51
251 Park Blvd. Hershey, PA 17033, 717-534-4900. Free Hershey's Chocolate Making Tour. Hershey's Really Big 3D Show. Free Hershey's Sample. hersheyschocolateworld.com

HIGH SPORTS (SUN) 23
727 Furnace Hills Pike (Rt. 501, 1 mile north of) Lititz, PA 17543. 717-626-8318. Fun for the while family! Mini-Golf, Go Kart Track, Batting Cages, Driving Range (bring your own clubs). HighSports.com

HOSPICE OF LANCASTER LABOR DAY AUCTION 7
Lampeter Fairgrounds, Route 741 between Strasburg and Lancaster, Lampeter, PA. 717-295-3900. The 27th annual auction is Saturday, Sept. 3 (9am-5pm) and Monday, Sept. 5 (8:30am-6pm). Crafts, quilts, artwork, collectibles, Amish-made food, etc. See ad or go to hospiceoflancaster.org

INTERCOURSE PRETZEL FACTORY 36
3614 Old Phila. Pike (Cross Keys), Intercourse, PA 17534. 717-768-3432. Learn how old-fashioned pretzels are made by hand on our FREE tour and twist your own. IntercoursePretzelFactory.com

JULIUS STURGIS PRETZEL BAKERY 22
219 E. Main Street, Lititz, PA 17543. 717-626-4354. Tour America's First Pretzel Bakery and get a hands-on pretzel twisting lesson. Mon-Sat. 9 – 5. Celebrating 150 years in 2011! juliussturgis.com

MENNONITE INFORMATION CENTER 8
2209 Millstream Road, Lancaster, PA 17602, 717-299-0954. Showing "Who Are the Amish" Step-on Guides for Amish Country tours, open Mon-Sat 8am-5pm. mennoniteinfoctr.com

MOUNT HOPE ESTATE & WINERY ● (SUN) 48
2775 Lebanon Road (Rt. 72 north at Turnpike Exit 266), Manheim, PA 17545. 717-665-7021. Home of the PA Renaissance Faire. Complimentary wine tasting. Mon-Sat. 10-6, Sun. 11-5. parenfaire.com

NATIONAL CANAL MUSEUM
30 Centre Square, Easton PA, 18042. 610-559-6613. Hands-on exhibits, and mule-drawn canal boat rides with costumed interpreters in season (June-August). National Award for Visitor Experience. canals.org.

NATIONAL CHRISTMAS CENTER FAMILY ATTRACTION AND MUSEUM (SUN).................. 19
3427 Lincoln Highway (Rt. 30) Paradise, PA 17562, 717-442-7950. Tour life-sized, indoor exhibits and celebrate Christmas memories, history & traditions. NationalChristmasCenter.com

NATIONAL TOY TRAIN MUSEUM (SUN)............ 43
300 Paradise Lane, Strasburg, PA 17579, 717-687-8976. Toy trains from 1800's to today. Operating train layouts, movies, library, gift shop. Open 7 days May-Oct. NTTMuseum.org

PENNSYLVANIA RENAISSANCE FAIRE (SUN). 4, 5
2775 Lebanon Road (Rt. 72 north at Turnpike Exit 266), Manheim, PA 17545. 717-665-7021. Spectacular event with shows, music, food, and jousting. Themed weekends. Runs August 13 – October 30 and Labor Day Monday. On the grounds of Mount Hope Estate and Winery. Complimentary wine tastings every day. parenfaire.com

SIGHT & SOUND THEATRE ® ● 41
300 Hartman Bridge Road (Rt. 896, south of Rt. 30), Strasburg, PA 17579. 800-377-1277. Where the Bible comes to life. Inspiring stories. Spectacular shows. Don't miss the amazing original production, JOSEPH, in its final showings! www.sight-sound.com

STRASBURG RAIL ROAD (SUN)........................ 40
Route 741 East, Strasburg, PA 17579, 717-687-7522. Travel through PA Dutch country on a steam train. Eat on a dining car, visit shops, ride fun extras. StrasburgRailRoad.com

VERDANT VIEW FARM 42
429 Strasburg Rd., Paradise, PA 17562. 888-321-8119. Milk cows, feed calves, and take our Farmland Fun Wagon Tour around our working dairy farm! farmlandfun.com

Let's Eat

BIRD-IN-HAND BAKE SHOP 25
542 Gibbons Rd., Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505, 717-656-7947. Homemade baked goods, hand-dipped ice cream locally made jar items gifts playground Visa/MC. BIHBakeShop.com

BIRD-IN-HAND FAMILY RESTAURANT & SMORGASBORD ● 26
2760 Old Phila. Pike (Route 340), Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505. 717-768-8266. PA Dutch specialties. Choose Grand Smorgasbord or menu dining. Unique Kid's Buffet. See ad coupon. bird-in-hand.com.

FAMILY CUPBOARD RESTAURANT & BUFFET....48
3029 Old Phila. Pike (Route 340), Bird-In-Hand, PA 17505. 717-768-4510. For delicious Lancaster County Amish home cooking, stop by The Family Cupboard buffet restaurant. Bakery and Gift shop on site.

GOOD 'N PLENTY RESTAURANT 49
Rt. 896, Smoketown, PA 17576. 717-394-7111. Specializing in Pennsylvania Dutch food, a long tradition of the finest in family style dining. Good food and plenty of it! goodnplenty.com

HERSHEY FARM RESTAURANT & INN ● (SUN)..42
P.O. Box 159, Strasburg, PA 17579. GPS: 240 Hartman Bridge Road (Rt. 896 S), Ronks, PA 17572. 800-827-8635. Endless menu and smorgasbord selections. Great shopping. Quaint inn and beautiful grounds. Next door to Sight & Sound. hersheyfarm.com

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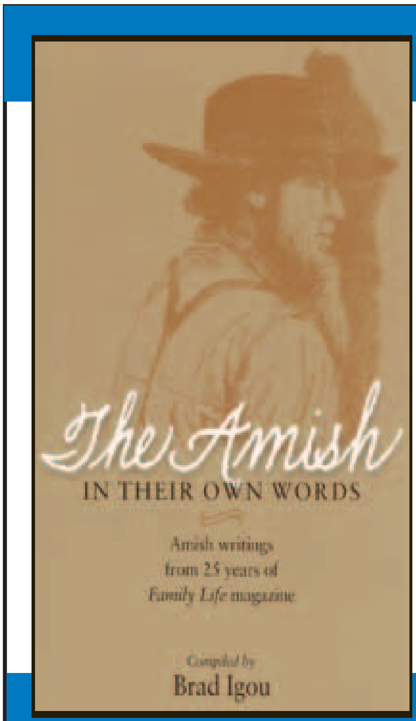

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THE IRON HORSE INN (SUN)..........................44
135 East Main St., Strasburg, PA 17579, 717-687-6362. Serving fine food and drink on Main St. Strasburg. In season enjoy dining alfresco. ironhorsepa.com

JAKEY'S AMISH BARBEQUE (SUN)....................3
Rt. 30 (behind the Dutch Haven windmill), 2 miles east of Rockvale Outlets. 717-687-7009. Slow cooked brisket, pork, turkey and chicken BBQ sandwiches. Hand cut French fries, fresh squeezed lemonade. Open 7 days.

LANCASTER BREWING COMPANY (SUN)..........48
302 N. Plum St., Lancaster PA, 17602. 717-391-6258. Downtown Lancaster's historic working brewery! Free tours. Home of Gold Medal Winning Milk Stout… AND great food! LancasterBrewing.com.

LOXLEY'S RESTAURANT (SUN)........................50
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MILLER'S SMORGASBORD ● (SUN)................20
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RED CABOOSE MOTEL & RESTAURANT ● (SUN)..50
312 Paradise Lane, Ronks PA, 17572. 717-687-5000. A refurbished 80-ton train car with railroad music playing in the background. Go back in time to the railroad's heyday! Featuring good old-fashioned family cooking. redcaboosemotel.com

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403 Bank Barn Lane, Lancaster, PA 17602. 717-394-9166. What's not to love about teas and treats? Satisfy your sweet tooth and enjoy a specialty coffee or tea. Over 120 loose teas from around the world. sugarplumsandtea.com

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6 N. Reamstown Rd., Reamstown PA, 17567 717-335-7837. Enjoy delicious food prepared by our award-winning chef, superior ales and lagers brewed on site, and the wonderful ambience of the our carefully restored historic building. Unionbarrelworks.com

YODER'S RESTAURANT & BUFFET ● (SUN) 45
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BEST WESTERN INTERCOURSE VILLAGE INN & RESTAURANT ●.....................32
Rts. 340 & 772, Intercourse, PA 17534. 717-768-3636 or 1-800-528-1234. Walk thru the Village & Visit the Craft Shops. 40 Rooms, restaurant with Good Home Cooking. amishcountryinns.com

COUNTRY INN OF LANCASTER ●....................54
2133 Lincoln Hwy. East (Rt. 30), Lancaster, PA 17602. 717-393-3413. Three-Diamond Country Inn with charm. Free Continental breakfast. Heated indoor / outdoor pool. Children stay free. countryinnoflancaster.com

FLORY'S COTTAGES & CAMPING......................54
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FULTON STEAMBOAT INN (SUN).....................15
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LAKE IN WOOD RESORT 54
576 Yellow Hill Road, Narvon, PA 17555. 717-445-5525. Featuring 6-acre lake, gazebo, community fireplace, rental cabins and park models. LakeinWoodCampground.com

Shopping

AIMEE & DARIA'S DOLL OUTLET (SUN) 7
2682 Lincoln Hwy. East, Ronks, PA 17572. 717-687-8118. Over 5000 dolls, doll clothing, doll furniture. American Girl mini-doll, books, clothes to fit. dolloutlet.com

ANTIQUES CAPITAL USA (SUN).......................51
Exit 286 off pa turnpike, Adamstown pa. Home to more than 7,000 antique dealers. Microbrewery, golf courses, farmers markets, and more. Antiquescapital.com

BARBAGALLO'S RESCUED: A TRUE STORY OF ENDURING LOVE 15
Compelling love story. New York City girl's turmoil leads to drug overdose, elopement, and move to Vermont. How could she land in jail three weeks later? See ad on page 19 of this issue. Visit YolandaTom.com

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2710 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505. 717 393-9674. Indoor air-conditioned farmers market. Call or visit birdinhandfarmersmarket.com for days of operation or see our ad.

BRICKERVILLE ANTIQUES (SUN).....................23
2 East 28th Division Hwy., Lititz, PA 17543. 717-626-0786. At Brickerville Shops, Rt. 322 & 501. Quality antiques & collectibles in a restored 1857 barn. Open 7 days. brickervillehouseshops.com

COUNTRY CREATIONS 40
321 North Star Rd., Strasburg, PA 17579. 717-687-8743. Three floors of home accessories, furniture lighting, gifts, rugs, curtains, candles, jewelry in our 110-year-old barn! CountryCreationsPA.com

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On Route 23 at the Shady Maple Complex. 717 354-2329. Fine home furnishings and the area's largest selection of Amish furniture. We deliver and ship anywhere. Open Mon.-Sat. chfs1.com

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4134 Old Phila. Pike (PO Box 576), Intercourse, PA 17534. 717-768-3818. One of the largest collections of fine cutlery in the world! Over 8,000 items from 300 manufacturers and 20 countries. countryknives.com

COUNTRY ROAD FLOWERS..............................33
3546 W. Newport Rd., Ronks, 17572. 717-768-8478. Wonderful silk & dried flower arrangements, as well as Boyds Bears, Yankee candles, and crafts. Search for us at amishnews.com

DUTCH HAVEN (SUN).......................................3
Route 30, 2 miles east of Rockvale Outlets. 717-687-0111. Select, distinctive crafts and "America's best shoo-fly pie." Open 7 days. Look for famous landmark windmill! Also, Jakey's Amish Barbeque. dutchhaven.com

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In the heart of Intercourse (Rt. 340). 717-768-8799 & Village of Dutch Delights (Rt. 30), 717-687-0534. Locally made quilts, wall hangings, pillows, dolls, & other hand-crafted items. Open Mon-Sat. dutchlandquilts.com

ESH'S HANDMADE QUILTS..............................32
3829 Old Phila. Pike, Gordonville, PA 17529. (1 mi. east of Intercourse, Rt. 340). 717-768-8435. Quilts and crafts --- "The Authentic Ones." Custom quilting and memory quilts. (Mon-Sat 9-6). Visa/MC/Discover.

ESH VALLEY QUILTS.......................................44
849 Strasburg Road, Paradise, PA 17562. 717-442-8123. Come up the lane and turn left into an authentic Amish quilt shop on the farm in a beautiful location. Quality handmade quilts, wallhangings, runners, pillows and crafts at reasonable prices.

ESSIAC HANDBOOK..7
Learn about the Famous Ojibway Herbal Healing Remedy. Write for a free copy to PO Box 1182, Crestone CO, 81131. Or, call toll-free 1-888-568-3036. Have a copy of this helpful handbook sent to your home!

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2191 Lincoln Hwy E, Lancaster. 866-925-4474 Solid hardwood furniture made by Amish craftsmen. Customizable with over 15 stains and several wood species. Delivery anywhere. gishs.com

GLICK'S FOODS & CRAFTS 25
248-A Monterey Rd., 1 mile NE of Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505. 717-656-1343. Our Amish family makes delicious baked goods right at our house. Also, quilts, crafts, oak and poly chairs and lawn furniture. Drive down the lane to our farm for good food and crafts. Closed Sundays.

INTERCOURSE CANNING COMPANY ● (SUN) 33
3612 E. Newport Rd., PO Box 541, Intercourse, PA 17534. 717-768-0156. View one of Lancaster's working canneries! Jake & Amos pickled vegetables, relishes, jams, & more. Gourmet coffees. M-Thurs. 9:30-5; Fri.-Sat. 9:30-6. intercoursecanning.com

J & B QUILTS & CRAFTS.................................42
157 North Star Rd., Strasburg. Visit an Amish farm while shopping for beautiful quilted items including quilts, wall hangings, aprons, handbags, pillows, and more.

JAKE'S COUNTRY TRADING POST ● (SUN).....21
2954 Lincoln Hwy. East (Rt. 30), Paradise, PA. 717-687-8980. America's favorite country store. Largest selection of indoor and outdoor décor. Open 7 days a week. jakesctp.com

KAUFFMAN'S FRUIT FARM & MARKET ●..........26
3097 Old Philadelphia Pike, Bird In Hand, PA 17505 (717) 768-7112 Our very own orchard fruits. See our hive of bees, and buy a jar of the delicious honey! Huge selection of bulk foods, and many other local grocery specialties. kauffmansfruitfarm.com

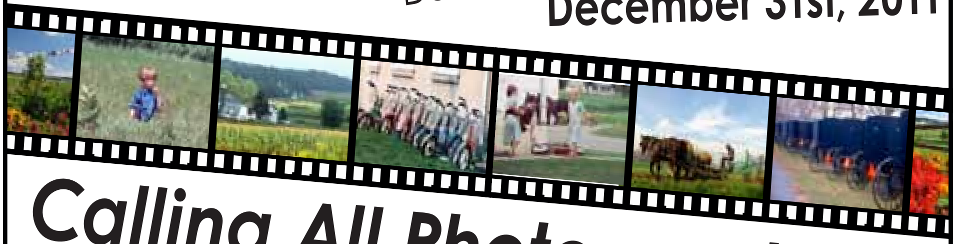
KILLER HATS ● (SUN)...................................19
3000 Lincoln Highway East, Paradise PA, 17562. 717-687-7666. Located 4 miles east of the outlets on route 30. Extreme fashion for ladies, gentlemen, cowboys, bikers, and scoundrels. killerhats.com

LAPP'S QUILTS & CRAFTS...............................44
206 N. Star Rd., off Rt. 896, Strasburg. Shop in the basement of an Amish home for beautiful quilts & wood crafts. Open 8-7, closed Sunday.

LEACOCK COLEMAN CENTER ●........................35
89 Old Leacock Road, Ronks PA, 17572. 717-768-7174. Campfire Supplies! Pie Irons, Hot Dog Forks, Marshmallow Roasters, Tripods, Campfire Grills, Fire starters, and more! More than just for vacations, like enjoying a quiet evening at home in the back yard or your patio! See the area's largest selection of old-fashioned oil lamps. leacockcolemancenter.com

LENA'S VICTORIAN LUXURIES.........................27
2707 Old Phila. Pike, Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505 (across from Farmers Market, Rt. 340). 717-509-1983. Lots of jewelry, lace, china, antique furniture, home décor, and much more. Open Mon – Sat.

Deadline: **December 31st, 2011**



Calling All Photographers!

2011 Amish Country News Photo Contest

Ours is one of the most photographed areas in the world. With so much beauty and variety around us, it's no wonder! If you think you've got a great photo, why not send it to us? The winner will recieve free tour and attraction tickets. In addition, you will see your photo in the pages of ***Amish Country News!*** Other prizes will also go to the first, second, and third runners-up.

All submitted photos become the property of ***Amish Country News*** and the Amish Experience. Photos may also be used in upcoming issues, in other publications, and/or for other promotional purposes.

Photos will be judged on quality, color, subject matter, etc. Keep in mind that these photos are for publication, cannot be returned, and should depict a scene, aspect, event, or activity typical to Lancaster or the Pennsylvania Dutch Country region.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES: December 31st, 2011

We will accept photos via email, and request that no more than 10 photos by the same person be submitted, so pick your best! Each photo submitted should contain the name, address, phone # and email address of the photographer, so they can be contacted. Any details on the location, date, or subject matter of the photograph should be included.

To enter, send photos in .jpg or .tiff format to: editor@amishnews.com
(Please put "2011 photo contest" in the subject line)

MOUNT HOPE WINE GALLERY ● (SUN) 37
3174 Old Phila. Pike (Rt. 340), Bird-in-Hand, PA 17505. 717-768-7194. Formal wine tastings and sales. Customized gift baskets available. Mon.-Sat. 10-6; Sun. 11-6. parenfaire.com

OLD CANDLE BARN...35
Box 10, 3551 Old Philadelphia Pike, Intercourse, PA 17534. 717-768-8926. Stop in the barn that is just filled to the rafters with country furnishings that will turn your house into a home. oldcandlebarn.com

OLD COUNTRY STORE ●.....................18, 34, 36
3510 Old phila. Pk., Route 340, Intercourse PA. 717-768-7101. Landmark store featuring local crafts and quilts. Extensive Fabric Center & Quilt Museum. theoldcountrystore.com

PAGES IN TIME ● 23
16 E.28th Division Hwy. (Rt.322E.),Lititz,PA 17543.717-625-4455.Scrap your trip! Great selection of scrapbook and card making supplies! Tues-Fri. 10-5,Sat. 10-4. MC/Visa/Discover.

RENNINGER'S ANTIQUE MARKET (SUN) 51
2500 N. Reading Rd., Denver, PA 17517. (717) 336-2177. Renninger's is the #1 Antiques Market in Adamstown. Selling and buying quality antiques. Open Sundays at 7:30 AM. We have an indoor and outdoor marketplace, with plenty of parking.

RIEHL'S QUILTS & CRAFTS ●.........................30
247 Eby Rd. Take Rt. 340 to 772 W, turn right onto Stumptown and right onto Eby. 717-656-0697, 800-957-7105. Come visit this Amish dairy farm & see our large display of quilts & crafts. Open 8-5:30. Call for catalog. riehlsamishquilts.com

SEPTEMBER FARM CHEESE..............................12
460 Mill Road, Honey Brook PA, 19344. 610-273-3552. Award-winning cheeses made right on our own dairy farm. Taste our wonderful cheese while you shop our clean and welcoming store. See cheese being made. septemberfarmcheese.com.

SHUPP'S GROVE ANTIQUE MARKET (SUN).......51
PO Box 892, Adamstown, PA 19501. 717-484-4115. From Lancaster: Rt. 222 N to Rt. 272 N, south 1 mi. on Rt. 897. Romance of the woods, thrill of the hunt, euphoria of the "Big Find!" shuppsgrove.com

SMUCKERS GOURDS 43
317 Springville Road (Route 897), Kinzers, PA 17535. Only 1-1/2 miles north of Route 340. (717)354-6118. Largest gourd farm in the region. Natural and pre-washed for Crafters. Beautifully hand painted gifts. Custom orders welcome.

SMUCKER'S QUILTS..45
117 N. Groffdale Rd., New Holland, PA 17557. 717-656-8730. Shop located on the peaceful side of Lancaster on an Amish farm, over 100 quilts and other handcrafts. Search for us at amishnews.com

THAT FISH PLACE/THAT PET PLACE ● (SUN)..11
237 Centerville Road, Lancaster, PA 17603, 717-299-5691. The world's largest pet store! 1,000's of fish, pets, & supplies. Free sting ray touch tank. Mon-Sat 9-9, Sun 10-6. thatpetplace.com

WITMER QUILT SHOP.....................................47
1070 West Main St., New Holland, PA 17557. 717-656-9526. Over 100 new quilts, over 100 antique quilts in stock! All different. Also, wall-hangers and pillows. Open Mon-Sat. Search for us at amishnews.com

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PUBLISHER'S MESSAGE

Simple Pleasures

by Brad Igou

Films and books often extol simple pleasures. While we often benchmark times in our lives by major events, it is the simple, everyday things that give our lives meaning and continuity. In our days, we often don't savor or appreciate them. Let me share four of my summer simple pleasures with you...

MEADOW TEA... While I am the world's worst gardener, my two kinds of mint tea grow and thrive every year without any help from me. The tea is excellent for making both hot and cold beverages. (I admit to putting more sugar in my iced mint tea than necessary.) I also know people who boil the leaves and do not dilute the liquid, freezing and saving it as a "concentrate" to enjoy hot over the winter.

SWEET CORN... Most of those fields you see in Lancaster produce "field corn" to fill the silos and feed the dairy cows. But there is also sweet corn grown for human consumption. I consider it a true Lancaster "delicacy." The sooner it is picked, taken home, and boiled, the better it is.

I once was describing to visitors the wonderful taste of the juicy corn with butter and salt... simple, yet unforgettable. "Where can we go to get some?" they asked, mouths watering. Although not frequently on menus, you might find some in season at some of our family-style and smorgasbord restaurants.

Many locals cut the kernels off the cob and freeze them. This corn frequently appears at volunteer fire company fund-raising dinners. There may be snow on the ground, but the flavors in your mouth transport you back to summer.

HOMEMADE ROOT BEER... Most visitors have purchased commercially made root beer or birch beer. These beverages are not beer, nor do they contain alcohol. I grew up with homemade root beer. My mother used to make it (root beer extract, yeast, sugar) and put it in jars, some of which exploded one time!

The Amish still make root beer, many selling it at roadside stands or craft shops. Along Route 340 between Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse, you might see a handmade sign saying "COLD ROOT BEER," quite tempting on a hot day. Add a scoop or two of ice cream in a tall glass and try a root beer float… it doesn't get much better than that!

FIREFLIES

Ever since I was a kid, I found fireflies fascinating. We called them lightning bugs, just a normal part of growing up here. But an incident changed my perspective…

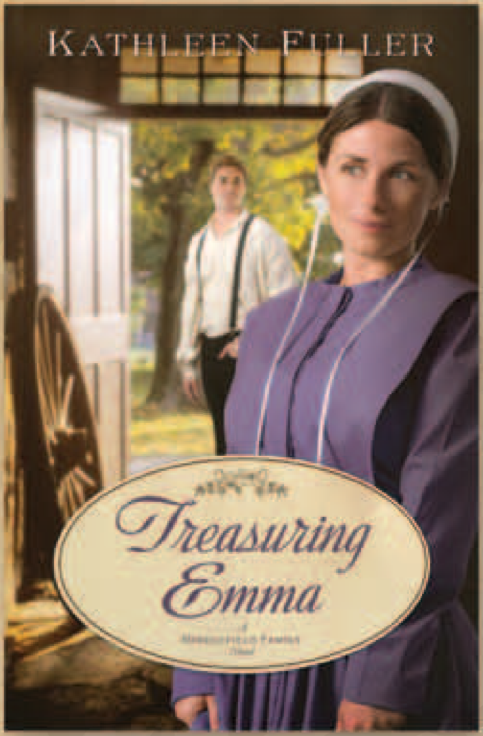
A few years ago, a consultant was here from Los Angeles working on special effects for the Amish Experience Theater. We had just eaten a late meal at a diner on Route 30. As we stepped outside, he stopped dead in his tracks. His mouth dropped open. I asked what was wrong. He simply pointed to the cornfield. I saw nothing. "Look!" he said. "It's just corn," I replied. "No, look!" he repeated, and now I saw that the field was filled with fireflies, their lights twinkling on and off. "I've never seen them before," he explained.

So we went to my Amish friend's house, sat on the porch, and watched fireflies glittering all across the fields in front of his house. We even ran around until we caught one so that he could see it up close.

Several weeks after his return to California, he sent each of us a key chain in the shape of a big firefly. You squeezed it and its underside lit up. My Amish friend and I had quite a laugh. Our fireflies were probably the highlight of his visit… a natural Amish Country special effect!

Each of these simple pleasures now carry with it memories and associations of other times, events, and people. Every summer I think that I probably didn't fully appreciate them. Whatever your simple pleasures may be, enjoy them and be sure to share them with someone else!

Love, Plain and Simple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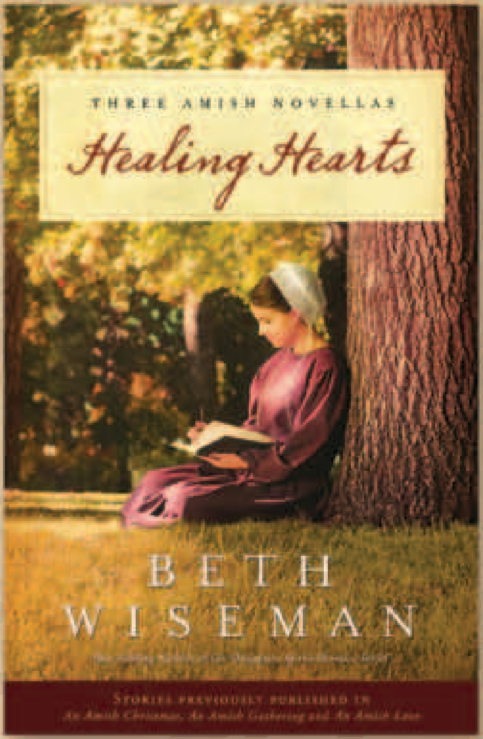
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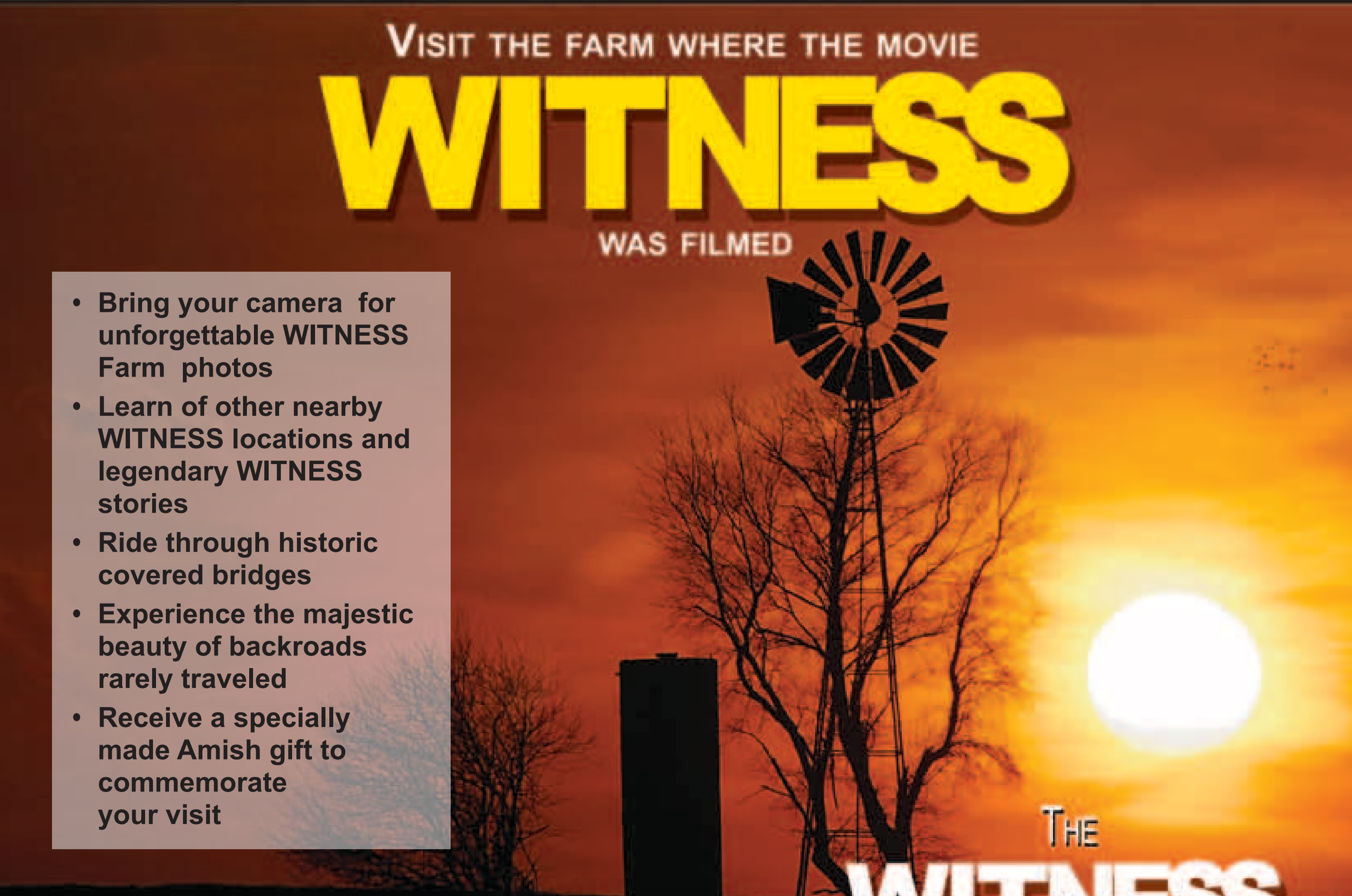

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